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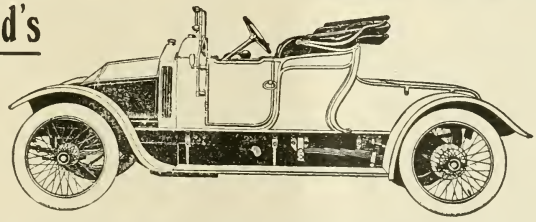

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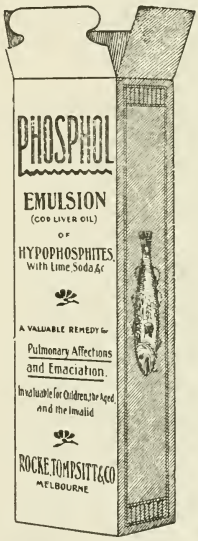

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THE AUSTRALASIAN

Journal of Pharmacy.

[REGISTERED UNDER COPYRIGHT ACT].

No. 324. DECEMBER 20TH, 1912. Vol. XXVII.

ENGLAND.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

London, 9th Nov., 1912.

LIQUID PREPARATIONS OF CARBOLIC ACID containing not more than 3 per cent. of phenols have been added to the list of substances to which section 5 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act 1908 applies. The order was confirmed by the Privy Council on October 11, and published in the *London Gazette* on October 18. The precise text is as follows:—

Whereas by section 5 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act 1908, it is enacted that—

"(1) It shall not be lawful to sell any substance to which this section applies by retail, unless the box, bottle, vessel, wrapper, or cover in which the substance is contained is distinctly labelled with the name of the substance and the word 'Poisonous,' and with the name and address of the seller of the substance, and unless such other regulations as may be prescribed under this section by Order in Council are complied with; and, if any person sells any such substance otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of this section or of any Order in Council made thereunder, he shall, on conviction under the Summary Jurisdiction Acts, be liable for each offence to a fine not exceeding five pounds.

"(2) The substances to which this section applies are sulphuric acid, nitric acid, hydrochloric acid, soluble salts of oxalic acid, and such other substances as may for the time being be prescribed by Order in Council under this section."

And whereas it is expedient that all liquid preparations sold as carbolic, or carbolic acid, or carbolic substitutes, or carbolic disinfectant, containing not more than 3 per cent. of phenols, should be prescribed as substances to which the said section applies.

Now, therefore, His Majesty is pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to prescribe, and it is hereby prescribed, that as from the 1st day of May, 1913, all liquid preparations sold as carbolic, or carbolic acid, or carbolic substitutes, or carbolic disinfectant, containing not more than 3 per cent. of phenols, shall be substances to which section 5 of the said recited enactment applies.

ALMERIC FITZROY.

On and after 1st May, 1913, preparations of carbolic acid, which come within the above definition, must only be sold in bottles distinguishable by touch from ordinary bottles, and must be labelled with the name of the substance, the words "Poisonous—Not to be Taken," and the name and address of the seller.

OPTICAL ETHICS.

The president of the Liverpool Optical Society made some interesting comments on the ethics of opticians at the annual meeting on October 9. In the course of his address he referred to the fact that certain opticians still continued the practice of advertising that they examined eyes free of charge. In his opinion, this was a huge stumbling block to better prices, and very detrimental to the profession. If they continued this practice he feared they would regret it. By advertising in this manner they entered into direct competition with the oculist, with whom they ought to work cordially. As qualified opticians they knew full well the trouble and time a difficult refraction took, and must regard the oculist's fee as well earned. That being so, they ought to impress this fact upon their clients, and he had no doubt it would be found that in nine cases out of ten the fee would be agreed to. In that way the oculist would come to look upon the optician as his best friend and supporter. Next, they should make it clear to the medical profession that opticians were a conscientious body of men, capable of correcting errors of refraction. If opticians would confine themselves to refraction, making every effort to work cordially with the doctor and oculist, he was sure they would to a great extent do away with the hospital abuse which was due in a great measure to medical practitioners injudiciously sending cases to eye hospitals for the most trivial errors of refraction. Hospital oculists were overworked on this account, and very often very bad refraction work was done owing to the hasty manner in which the tests had to be carried out.

ORGANISATION AND THE INSURANCE ACT.

The Pharmaceutical Society has every reason to congratulate itself on the excellent organisation work it has accomplished under the direction of Mr. Woolcock, the organising secretary, and Mr. Rutherford Hill, secretary of the North British branch. There is no doubt that the effective work which has been done by these officers in connection with the National Insurance Act has been largely responsible for the fact that pharmacists have come out so well under the National Insurance Act. Even so frank a critic as the *British and Colonial Druggist* admits the value of what has been done, and adds that it is only by efficient organisation that the pharmacist can hope to maintain his position at the present day, and had the craft been anything like so well organised twenty years ago as it now is, company pharmacy would by no means hold the prominent position it has attained. In connection with the Insurance Act, the pharmaceutical representatives are now endeavouring to secure the payment of pharmacists on tariff lines, instead of by a per capita grant. A model tariff has been drawn up, but not yet made public. There is no doubt that if the Insurance Commissioners could be persuaded to adopt this principle, much of the objection to the present scheme would be overcome. Pharmacists would then know exactly where they stood, and even if they did not make much profit out of the dispensing they would be certain that they were not incurring a loss.

THE NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT.

The struggle between the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the medical profession with regard to the medical benefits under the Insurance Act was advanced a stage further on October 23, when the Chancellor issued an official report to the Advisory Committee intimating to what extent he was prepared to meet the demands of the doctors for increased remuneration. The report is of sufficient interest to publish in full so far as it relates to the supply of drugs. The Chancellor says that the drug bill of the doctors in five selected towns was about 5d. per head. To that must be added a reasonable amount for profit. Including profit the figure must be under 1/-. There are two dangers with regard to the supply of drugs. One is that there might not be an adequate supply. The other is that the doctor might pass on a patient to the chemist in order to get rid of him. This would mean extravagance in the supply of drugs. To deal with this problem we propose that we should find a fixed amount for doctoring and drugging, and that this should include such "extras" as come within medical benefit. The present figure, including drugs, is 6/-, and if you include the 6d. for tuberculosis, it is 6/6. We propose to increase that amount by 2/6. That means 9/- in all for the non-institutional treatment of all diseases amongst the insured population. How is that to be distributed? That is a very difficult problem. The doctor says, "If I am simply to come in last, as second or third mortgagee, with an unlimited liability in respect of drugs and administration and everything else, I do not know where I am. The first thing I want to know is what is the minimum I am assured of." I think that is a very reasonable view. He also says, "If drugs to an unlimited amount are a first charge on that 9/-, then it means that if there is an epidemic in a district, and I am worked very hard, the harder I am worked the less I get." That is obviously a very unfair arrangement. That is what we have to deal with, and we felt that at any rate there ought to be a figure which the doctor could feel provided an assured sum of money for payment for his services. We propose

that the sum of 7/- is to be assured as the basis of the doctor's remuneration. Then there will be 1/6 for drugs, which brings the amount up to 8/6. The remaining 6d. will be left between the doctor and the chemist. It will provide £320,000, which will be available if the drug bill exceeds the 1/6 provided, but if the 1/6 is not exceeded it will be available for the doctor. That is not the case with regard to the 1/6. I want to make it clear, because we have come to the conclusion that, at any rate up to 1/6, there ought to be no inducement to the doctor to cut down the drugs. We want the best drugs available in the market for the treatment of the industrial population of this country, in the interest of the State as well as for humanitarian reasons, and we realise that it will be necessary to have 1/6 at least for the provision of drugs. Then comes this case. The doctor will say, "Supposing there is an epidemic in a given district, and there is an abnormal demand for drugs, it is rather hard on me that the 6d. should be drawn upon just when I am worked harder." I think his case is a good one. We therefore propose to provide a central fund to deal with abnormal cases of that kind. When we are satisfied that there has been an epidemic of some kind which has made an abnormal demand for drugs in a given district, we shall make a grant from the central fund in respect of the abnormal amount of drugs needed. I ought to make it clear that this is outside the 9/-; this is the abnormal drug fund. Perhaps I had better go through the figures again—7/- for payment of the services of the doctor to include "extras," to include tuberculosis; 1/6 to provide drugs; 6d. as an additional sum available if that 1/6 is exceeded; if it is not exceeded, then that 6d. passes to the doctors' remuneration fund; that comes to 9/-. Then, outside that, there will be a central fund for the purpose of meeting cases of epidemics where there is an abnormal demand for drugs. As far as rural districts are concerned the drug problem does not arise between the doctor and the chemist; in very few of them are there any chemists available, and therefore the doctor will have to provide his own drugs. That means that in the rural districts the whole of the 9/- will be available for paying the doctor, he providing the drugs. It would be quite impossible in some of these areas to compel patients to walk two, three, four, and five miles in order to get to a chemist in a neighbouring town to get a prescription dispensed. Therefore, in those cases it will be necessary to make special arrangements whereby the doctors will provide the drugs themselves. In those cases, of course, the whole of the amount set aside will be available for payment to the doctors for drugging as well as doctoring; and, of course, there is no doubt at all that that, to a very large extent, will be taken into account when the doctors among themselves come to discuss the question of mileage. The rural doctor will be in a better position than the town doctor as far as drugs are concerned; on the other hand, he will be in a worse position as far as the distances are concerned which he has to travel to see his patients.

THE OPIUM TRAFFIC.

In the House of Commons on October 16, Sir J. D. Rees asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he had any official information as to the increasing inability of the authorities in Peking to control the provincial authorities; whether he was aware that, notwithstanding treaty obligations, the poppy was freely cultivated in Kweichau, Shansi, Szechuan, Chekiang, Kiangsu, Fukien and Yunnan; whether it now appeared to the Government likely that the Chinese Government would be able to enforce the discontinuance of the poppy cultivation; whether the revenues of the Chinese Government had been largely reduced by the fall in opium importation; and whether the Government proposed, while reducing the income of the Chinese Government, to facilitate the loan of money to that Administration to repair the breach partly created by its own policy.

Mr. Wedgwood Benn (who answered in the absence of the Foreign Office Minister): Information received from H.M. diplomatic and Consular representatives in China gives evidence of the inability of the Central Government at Peking to impose its will on the authorities of the provinces. The same information also shows that since the outbreak of the revolution China has signally failed to carry out the stipulation in Article 1 of the Anglo-Chinese Agreement of May 8, 1911, providing for the progressive diminution of opium production throughout the country. I cannot say that there are any indications at present to warrant the hope that the Central Government will be able in the near future to enforce the discontinuance of poppy cultivation, but I trust that the gradual restoration of normal conditions, which I believe to be in progress, may ultimately lead to this result. I have no information to bear out the suggestion made in the fourth part of the question. The loss of revenue which might have resulted from the decrease of opium imported has been offset to a large extent, if not altogether, by the increase in the import duty imposed on foreign opium under Article 6 of the Agreement above referred to.

WHO SHALL DISPENSE?

Recently one of the hospital boards made a suggestion that nurses on receiving three months' tuition in dispensing should be allowed to do compounding for patients at the institution. Commenting on the proposal, *The Hospital* says: "Such a preposterous idea must be killed by an appeal to public opinion should other means fail. We do not apologise for repeating our opinion that where compounding is a part of the duties, however small, of an officer, it must be performed by an expert. If there is less work than will occupy the full time of the pharmacist, then let duties of a less specialised nature be added. There is a great difference between having a qualified pharmacist performing secretarial duties and having a clerk or nurse dabbling with drugs."

METHOD IN SIGHT TESTING.

At the October meeting of the Society of Chemist Opticians, Mr. L. Lawrence delivered an interesting lecture on sight-testing methods. He

said that his purpose was to show, not merely methods of sight-testing, but the necessity of methodical procedure. In no work was method of greater importance than in sight-testing. The first thing was to learn the degree of vision of the right and left eyes separately while the other was occluded. It was, of course, essential that each eye be treated separately, because they might be, and generally were, different as to their refraction, and if the vision of the two eyes were taken together one would obtain only that of the better eye. The first step in the actual subjective test was to determine the presence or absense of manifest hypermetropia. This is one thing that can be definitely proved, for a seeing eye must have worse vision if a convex lens is placed before it, unless the focus of parallel light is brought nearer to the retina, when vision will be improved; or the sight will remain just as it was before, owing to accommodation relaxing to an amount equal to the power of the convex lens, whether the focus be on the retina or not. On the result depends the course of the test, for all cases of refractive error can be roughly divided into three classes, viz., those where a + spherical is accepted, those where a — spherical is obviously required, and those where the necessity of sphericals is doubtful. The speaker then went into the details of examination, and impressed upon his hearers the importance of having a fixed method of procedure. Successful sight-testing, he said, could result only if method be employed right through the test; one cannot arrive at the necessary lenses by guesswork or haphazard procedure.

DOCTORS AND PHARMACISTS.

At the jubilee dinner of the Leeds Chemists' Association, held on November 6, Mr. Edmund White, in responding to the toast of the Pharmaceutical Society, referring to the National Insurance Act, said that it had now been set down for the first time that prescribing should be separated from dispensing. That had been stated by Mr. Lloyd George at an interview with members of the Pharmaceutical Society and others, and it was the first time that such a statement had been made in public by a man whose word carried weight in the country. Mr. Lloyd George made that statement in all seriousness, and said it was founded upon his own experience when he was a young man not earning a great deal of money. Now it was proposed to ask the public to recognise the desirability of this separation from every point of view. They had been asking for many years for this separation, but no progress seemed to have been made in regard to it; and now it was necessary to go very cautiously to work. They had to convince the public that this separation was desirable, and if they did not succeed in doing that they would not get it, and if they got it without being able to convince the public of the desirability they would lose it afterwards. On the whole, the Act was the chance of a lifetime. He believed that if they did not now accept the opportunity for the separation of prescribing and dispensing the present system would be perpetuated, and the opportunity would not come again. Of course, they would have to deal with displacements under the Act. If the dispensing was to be done by pharmacists, it would create a demand for a class of assistants who were now doing work under the doctors and friendly societies and institutions, and that matter would have to be very carefully considered. In conclusion, Mr. White suggested the possibility of certain changes in the Major Examination, the aim of which would be to train men to assist doctors in the preparative work of bacteriology, and use of electrical apparatus and other matters of the sort. If they did not do that, he said, somebody else would do it, and he thought—though he was speaking for himself alone in the matter—that there were great possibilities in that respect.

The toast of "The Medical Profession" was proposed by Mr. F. P. Sargeant, who referred in the most interesting way to the relationship between the medical and pharmaceutical professions.

Dr. Bell, in responding, said that so far as the Insurance Act meant a differentiation between the prescribing of medicines and the dispensing, the doctors would welcome the change. He had no doubt that they would just as soon welcome the absence of the dispensing doctor as the doctors would welcome the absence of the prescribing chemist. (Laughter.) Speaking of the Act as a whole, however, he described it as begotten in haste and nurtured in incompetency.

GENERAL.

The revenue from the sale of medicine stamps for the year ended 31st March, 1912, amounted to £327,857 as against £325,646 for the previous year. If any inference can be drawn from these figures it is that the popularity of secret remedies is certainly not declining. Licenses issued to vendors of patent medicines numbered 43,131, an increase of about 450 on the previous year.

A course of lectures on Pharmaceutical Bacteriology is to be delivered under the auspices of the Pharmaceutical Society in the New Year, and it is announced that further developments of the society's educational policy may be made in due course. It has long been urged that the subject of bacteriology should be included in the Major Examination syllabus, and, although the Council's intention in this matter has not been declared, the inauguration of a course of instruction in this subject may possibly be the first step in the direction indicated by the more advanced of our pharmaceutical educationists. The *Pharmaceutical Journal*, commenting on the proposal, says that, since a training in bacteriological technique was now almost a matter of necessity for the pharmacist, facilities for acquiring a practical knowledge of the subject would be widely appreciated.

At Marylebone Police Court on November 5, James Gallety, oilman, was summoned, at the instance of the Commissioner of Police, for contravening an Order of the Council made under the Poisons and Pharmacy Act 1908, by selling hydrochloric acid in a bottle not rendered distinguishable by touch from an ordinary medicine bottle. Defendant was fined £3, with 2/- costs.

ORIGINAL AND SELECTED ARTICLES.

The Cultivation of Drugs.

Some valuable evidence relative to the cultivation of drugs has been placed before the Dominions Royal Commission by representatives of the London Chamber of Commerce. The Commission sat on October 23, the first witness being Mr. John C. Umney, President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference. He showed that the imports of essential oils and other products were of considerable total value. He was not aware that any systematic attempt had been made to cultivate plants for the distillation of essential oils in the colonies, with the possible exception of certain experiments made in 1897 at Dunolly (Victoria), where satisfactory results were obtained in the cultivation of geranium, lavender, peppermint, rosemary and thyme. He expressed the opinion that the cultivation of many of the plants yielding essential oils could be extended to other districts within the dominions. He was also convinced that the production of these materials within the Dominions would in a very large measure prevent much of the cornering and speculation which has been rife in recent years, and has so enhanced the price of some of the staple essential oils used in the perfumery and toilet soap trades, notably those of bergamot, French lavender, and otto of rose. In his view, the following material for essential oil distillation could be cultivated within certain parts of our Dominions:—In climates such as Canada and Australia, the principal umbelliferous fruits—namely, anise, caraway, coriander, dill and fennel; in Australia and New Zealand, geranium, lavender, peppermint, rosemary and thyme; in Rhodesia, as well as in the West Indian Islands, where some are now cultivated, all species of citrus, notably those of the greatest commercial importance, for oils—namely, lemon, lime, orange, and bergamot. In the more tropical of our Dominions he was of opinion that cajuput, cloves and cubebs could be cultivated. Mr. J. Herbert E. Evans, who has taken a great interest in the possibilities of increasing the cultivation of medicinal drugs in our colonies, with a view to regulating supplies and improving the quality, pointed out that the Governments of other countries were taking active steps to advance the cultivation of drugs. He placed before the Commission some extremely valuable information concerning drug culture outside the country of origin, and suggested British Colonies which would be suitable for the cultivation of a large proportion of the vegetable drugs of the British Pharmacopœia. Mr. E. M. Holmes said he had cultivated under various conditions of soil and moisture in his garden at Sevenoaks nearly all the medicinal plants from different parts of the world that are capable of cultivation in this country. His experience led him to believe that many medicinal plants not yet cultivated in Britain or the colonies could be successfully cultivated in these countries from an agricultural standpoint. Whether this could be done profitably depended largely upon cheap labour and the application of scientific skill to the cultivation of the plants. In many cases, especially in those of the leafy drugs, it would be advantageous to the colonies to cultivate their own supply, since leaves often deteriorate during the journey by sea. The conditions for successful culture could only be determined under experimental conditions, which the pioneer could not afford to spend time on; a Bureau of Plant Industry was, therefore, required to work in connection with already established botanical gardens, where the methods of reproduction by seed or cuttings have already been ascertained. He suggested that certain drugs which are not as yet supplied by British Possessions might be introduced into suitable British Colonies, so as to render Great Britain independent of foreign countries. Professor H. G. Greenish suggested that certain variations in drugs as imported could be to a very great extent obviated by the cultivation of the plants under suitable conditions and the collection of the drug under proper control. There would result a regular supply of drugs of ascertained origin and fairly uniform quality and potency, a result of great value in the proper treatment of disease. Mr. Kenneth C. Allen said that a number of important drugs and spices were apt to have very violent fluctuations. There were two chief causes —(1) failure of crops, (2) speculation, the first often leading to the second. In order to remedy this to some extent certain drugs require to be cultivated over larger areas and in different countries, so that if a crop in one country fails that in another may be available. Experiments would have to be made in various of our colonies and Great Britain to see what plants were suitable to the different climates and other conditions. Mr. E. V. Barret said there was a considerable shortage in the supplies of certain materials for perfumery manufacture, and the source in some cases being limited, increasing prices are being charged. Consequently, as a business proposition, if it should be found that they could be obtained in any of the Dominions, and the conditions for the production were favourable, there would be a certain demand, provided they could be imported in marketable quantities and uniform qualities. Some doubt was expressed as to the possibility of obtaining sufficiently cheap labour in the colonies for the purposes indicated. This, of course, is a vital matter, but it may be pointed out that if medicinal plants can be cultivated properly in the United States of America, where labour is notoriously dear, it should not be impracticable to carry on the industry on a commercial scale in some of our own colonies. In some provinces of Canada, however, and possibly in some other parts of our Dominions, the cost of labour is even higher than it is in America, and it is possible that the margin may suffice to make all the difference between profit and loss. This is a question which will be considered by the Commissioners before their recommendations to the various Governments are made known.

British Proprietary Medicines Inquiry.

The Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into matters relating to the sale and advertisement of proprietary medicines and appliances resumed its sittings on October 17, Sir Henry Norman presiding.

Dr. Norman Walker, treasurer of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, member of the General Medical Council, and physician for diseases of the skin, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and lecturer on skin diseases, Edinburgh University, stated that he desired to bring home to the Committee the serious results that might follow from the application of certain drugs. There were medicines in the Pharmacopœia which, wrongly administered, might produce evil effects upon the skin. It was the effect of certain drugs to produce bad effects. He produced an exhibit showing an eruption produced upon the skin by a drug known as chrysarobin. Belladonna was another drug which, when applied knowingly, could be stopped in time if it produced certain effects. When applied unknowingly, the patient did not know of the effects produced by it. He mentioned the case of a man suffering from rupture who had used an advertised rupture cure which consisted largely of turpentine. He had a rupture for twenty years and he rubbed the turpentine in violently for several months twice a day. As a result, he was three weeks in witness's ward in the hospital before he recovered from the effects. More important, perhaps, were those drugs which, when taken internally, produced eruptions. Again, he did not distinguish between patent medicines and others. They might do wrong when improperly applied. Some drugs, such as antipyrin, produced a rash which was very much like measles. Opium or morphia produced a rash so exceedingly like scarlet fever that sometimes it was almost impossible to distinguish between the two. Eruptions were produced on children by bromide of potassium, largely used in the form of teething powders. Bromide of potassium also formed a stand-by remedy for epilepsy, and was often found among cures for fits. When administered knowingly, one was on the look-out for any evil results it might produce. Dr. Walker referred to the case of a man who was suffering from epilepsy, and stated that, after a prolonged search, the doctors found a brand of proprietary preparation of bromide which controlled his epilepsy without eruption upon the skin. Iodide of potassium, which was prescribed by the faculty for the relief of asthma, also produced serious eruptions. There were very serious evil effects that arsenic might produce when its use was not under control. It produced marked effects upon the palm of the hand and the sole of the foot; there was a thickening of the skin, which might, and sometimes did, end in the production of cancer On the other hand, he had seen patients who had taken arsenic for thirteen years without evil effects. Occasionally, people took active remedies in the form of powder. He had a case of a child patient with an eruption which at first he did not recognise, but which, on inquiry, he found had been caused by taking a particular kind of powder without any particular reason. The child had been given Steedman's Powders, and had thus had half a grain of calomel three times a day. He was for five years in general practice before becoming a specialist, and he had found many cases where poor people had starved themselves in order to save the money to get for their friends worthless remedies for cancer, etc. He contended that no proprietary medicines should contain any drug which might do harm. The active ingredients should be stated on the label. He did not think it was very important to state the quantity of the ingredients, because that would not convey very much to the lay mind. The important thing was that the active ingredients should appear on the label.

The Chairman: You suggest that there should be put on the label the statement: These powders contain mercury, and so on?—Yes.

Would not the name "calomel" on the label of Steedman's Powders suggest anything to the lay mind?—I am more concerned that the doctors should see what the patient had been taking. The public does not take the medicine because it contains some drug, but because it is somebody's cure.

Mr. Bathurst: So the putting of names of ingredients on the label is not intended to act as a deterrent to the public so much as an indication to the doctor what the proprietary remedy contains?—I think a great many people would not take certain medicine if they knew it contained very active ingredients.

Sir Philip Magnus: Is it not possible that the ordinary public would attach more value to the medicine if it contained something which was an active ingredient?—I doubt that.

Mr. Bathurst: You recommend that the owner should state all the ingredients of the proprietary medicine to a board, which should decide the limitations of the word "active"?—Yes.

And you say that no proprietary drug should contain any ingredients which might do serious harm?—Yes.

That is, of course, a question of degree, and it would be very difficult for anybody to determine that?—It is very undesirable that things capable of doing serious harm should be sold freely.

But is it not very difficult indeed to say what ingredients are calculated to do serious harm; and would you prohibit the use in proprietary medicines of drugs which would only do serious harm if taken in large quantities?—If you did that you would stop these remedies and all remedies, which would be a very good thing.

Mr. Glyn-Jones: Have you found that the cases of eruption caused by the taking of drugs bear a very large proportion to the cases of eruption you have treated?—Not very large.

When they arise, are they serious in their effect?—Some of them are.

Are you satisfied that cases of cancer are caused by the taking arsenic?—Quite.

People who do not know better sometimes take more than the prescribed dose even of doctor's medicine, thinking that if the medicine is good the more the better?—Yes. Continuing, witness said

that in the case of Steedman's Powders the instruction was to take the powder twice a week during dentition, but the child he had spoken of was given three doses a day.

Mr. Glyn-Jones: Does the general effect of the evidence you have given come to this: that no layman ought to take medicine unless under the supervision of a doctor who understands them?—Yes.

With regard to the list of drugs which may do serious harm, could you make up a list of drugs which, under no circumstances, should be introduced into patent medicines?—Yes.

Do you think one or other of them are found in proprietary medicines?—There seems to have been a good many found in them.

Asked if he was in favour of the compilation of a list of diseases which it should be illegal for patent medicine proprietors to claim to cure, witness was understood to say that there was an idea which was in the minds of the medical faculty. It was wicked that people should be taking things which it was wrongly claimed were curing cancer. They kept on taking them and came to the hospitals too far gone for successful treatment.

What about phthisis?—The same thing applies.

And rupture: No external medicines can cure rupture.

The Chairman: And deafness?—There is no doubt that a great many deaf people waste a great deal of money on proprietary remedies.

Mr. Lawson: I gather that in your opinion the general public is very foolish if it tries to doctor itself?—Yes.

Your evidence is not directed against proprietary medicines as such, but against any medicine which pretends to do what it does not do, whether prescribed by a doctor or a chemist, or is sold as a proprietary medicine?—I don't think that is quite a fair way of putting it. The point is that remedies are very often taken by the patient in ignorance of the fact that they are in any way injured by them.

In some cases the original remedy prescribed by a doctor is prescribed on a wrong basis, is it not?—We are all liable to be mistaken.

You mentioned a case in which arsenic produced cancer. Was it administered on the prescription of a doctor? The witness was understood to reply in the affirmative.

Have you known similar evils to have been produced on others who have consulted chemists for what was at first thought to be small ailments?—Yes. Of course, there is a widespread belief that arsenic is a remedy practically for every skin disease. That belief is, however, not so widely held as it used to be. It is a very useful remedy for many things. I know a patient who took it for nine years, which, of course, was never intended by the medical man who prescribed it. He thought there was too much faith in arsenic for skin diseases.

Do you suggest there should be a legislative veto on all medicines which pretend to cure cancer, phthisis, and other serious maladies?—Yes.

Does that apply to those which claim to cure or to those which claim to relieve?—I think that people suffering from these serious diseases should always be under medical care.

Dr. Chapple: Do you think that secrecy is an evil?—Yes.

May not secrecy be a virtue? Are there not a great many patients who have peculiar notions about drugs, and who would not take a medicine, even if prescribed by a doctor, if they knew it contained certain drugs?—Yes, but those people are exceptions.

Do you not think that it is extravagant claims rather than secrecy which are the evil?—Certainly, extravagant claims are an evil. Idiosyncrasy almost always plays a part, and it is impossible to claim for any drug that it is a cure for any particular complaint in every case.

You propose to cure the evil of false claims by putting the name of the ingredients on the bottle?—If it were possible to present the vice of self-medication altogether, I should entirely approve; but I do not suppose that there is very much hope of getting such prohibition.

But do you think that the information on the label would deter a sufficient number of people to justify Parliament legislating in that direction?—I think it would be a good thing to do so. It would be a considerable advance, and I think would mitigate the evil.

Asked by Mr. Lynch whether he ever prescribed patent or proprietary medicines for patients, witness said he did prescribe some of them. He frequently recommended Wright's preparations.

Do you think you could make out a list of the diseases which should not be treated except under medical care? It would be a very big list.

Mr. Lynch: I think such a list would be very useful.

Mr. Glyn-Jones: With the list would you be able to give some indication to the patient that he had got the disease?—I do not think so.

Mr. Lynch: Granting that there are numbers of proprietary medicines which are extremely useful to medical men, would it not be well, in cases where there is sheer fraud, to deal definitely and drastically with them, so as to stamp them out entirely?—I quite agree with that. It would be a very difficult thing to exercise a satisfactory censorship over the advertisements of patent medicines. One effect of such a policy would be to give a guarantee to the preparations the advertisements of which were passed by the censor.

The Chairman: Don't you think that if on the bottle it is stated, "This bottle is guaranteed to contain 80 per cent. of pure H_2O," it would be very impressive to some people?

Mr. George S. Paternoster, assistant editor of *Truth*, was then called. He explained some of the methods of advertisement and fraudulent misrepresentation which were used. Although there were a considerable number of patent medicines disposed of through newspaper advertisements, there were certain other methods of advertisement. The present condition of affairs in relation to the whole business placed a premium upon fraudulent misrepresentation, for the simple reason that advertisers who were absolutely unscrupulous got an advantage over advertisers who had some qualms of conscience. The favourite and most successful method of advertising patent medicines was not that which directly recom-

mended the remedy to the public, so that people should go and buy it at the chemist's, but the indirect method of either offering a free trial or offering information through the post. A preliminary advertisement usually appeared offering a book which would give particulars regarding some particular remedy. The object of all this was to get into touch with the customer, and the next process was what was called the "follow-up" system. There was a whole series of letters which gradually increased in intensity, and which were sent out at regular and stated intervals until sales were effected. That was the usual system of advertising patent medicines. A minor form of advertising was the insertion in the newspapers, under the guise of a news paragraph, of recommendations which purported to be physicians' prescriptions. These were farcical and were a deception upon the public. Another method was the carrying through of a huge campaign of distributing free samples of remedies. Other plans were the publication of flamboyant circulars and the holding of public meetings, usually for ladies, at which women health lecturers recommended a series of remedies. American patent medicine vendors invaded this country to an enormous extent. That was due to the recent legislation passed in America against quacks. As much as £400,000 a year was spent in England on imported American patent remedies. The cost of catching the customer was more than the cost of the article sold. There was a central exchange, at which lists of people who had answered advertisements for remedies or had taken remedies could be purchased by the vendors of other remedies. Witness severely criticised the methods of eye specialists, bogus dentists, and certain proprietary medicine vendors. A large firm of manufacturing chemists had recently started advertising remedies for practically everything. It went under the name of Rexall.

Mr. Bathurst: Have you any reason to believe that these remedies will not cure the maladies which they purport to cure?—Oh, no, I have no reason to believe that. I should always be loth to say that any advertised patent medicines, other than such as relate to consumption, for instance, would not be able to cure.

Mr. Bathurst: Then what is your objection to the methods of this firm? They put forward claims for goods which can commonly be produced by any chemist or druggist. If they put forward a wrongful claim there is no means of dealing with them in this country.

The Chairman: These things appear to be put on the market by a company calling itself the United Drug Co.?—That is so.

Do you know anything of this company?—I take it the company has been legitimately formed.

Would you like to see a list of diseases drawn up which no person should be allowed by means of advertisements to offer to cure?—No; I would not go so far as that. A man who offers to cure cancer, for example, should be in a position to make clear exactly what he is saying and what grounds he has for his belief, and that he should not advertise unless he is prepared to place this information before an authority.

We should first get the sanction of the authority?—Either that or it should be an offence for him to make any false statement.

There should be some authority whose business it would be to take up these false statements and proceed against the offender?—Yes.

Can you throw any light upon how the vendors of proprietary medicines procure their testimonials; I have often been amazed at the quantity and quality of the testimonials they have secured?—I think most of them are *bona fide*, and that very few of the testimonialists do not believe in the genuineness of their own cures. Speaking generally, a large number of them are true at the time they are written, but they do not always hold good, and if they are followed up six or twelve months afterwards you find the patient has got back into the earlier condition, and that the testimonial is no longer of any value. That testimonial, however, remained in the possession of the proprietor of the secret remedy, and was used by him at all times.

Replying to other questions, witness said that he had no knowledge of combination amongst vendors of secret remedies for mutual defence. Undoubtedly a tremendous sum was spent in the advertisement of these remedies in newspapers. He was distinctly of opinion that the sale of these things had been on the increase in the last five years. There had been a huge influx from the United States, and, of course, from Germany, and to some extent from the Colonies. The profits were very large.

How do you suggest that the public should be protected against its own folly—in other words, what are your own suggestions, in general terms, for the alteration of the law? I presume you think that is necessary?—There are two points to bear in mind—the first is the protection of the public health; the second the protection of the public pocket. In relation to public health, I think a full disclosure on the label and on the outside of the package would to a very large extent afford a proper protection.

Sir Philip Magnus: A full disclosure of what?—Of the active ingredients for which remedial effects are claimed.

The Chairman: What would you do in the case of very active drugs, so active as in most circumstances to be noxious, which had no popular name—for instance, acetanilide; would that convey anything to the ordinary person?—Witness replied in the negative, and added that if drugs were not potent the public could more or less be entrusted to handle them themselves.

What do you suggest with regard to the protection of the public pocket?—I should suggest that it is necessary to make it, first of all, an offence at law to make any misstatement with regard to the history, contents, or effects of any remedy in the advertisement, on the label, or in printed circulars sent to any person with the object of inducing them to purchase any such remedy.

But who would you suggest should be the judge of the accuracy or inaccuracy of the statements? Do you suggest that in every case it should be necessary to go to the courts; and, if so, who should be the person to initiate prosecutions?—It is very difficult to decide who should

be the authority, but such authority would be absolutely essential. It might to some degree be got over by insistence upon the registration of proprietary and secret remedies and the submission of all labels and advertising literature to some authority before it was permitted to be advertised. In such a case the man who had a consumption cure, and really believed in it, would take his advertisements and so forth to the authority, and might get permission to sell under a patent medicine stamp. That, of course, is more or less to give a Government guarantee, but it would protect the public very largely from having purely worthless or fraudulent statements made to them.

Answering Mr. Glyn-Jones, witness expressed the view that chemists and druggists recognised as fully as he did the advantages that quackery got at present, and would be glad to have it restrained. He should suggest that the Censor should be the central body, and in this matter of public health that authority would be the Local Government Board. There would need to be both medical and legal advisers in connection with this matter, because it would depend so largely upon questions of false statement, and not merely on mere medical questions. Of course, a distinction should be made between the usual puffery and fraud.

Questioned by Mr. Bathurst, Mr. Paternoster said he believed the restrictions in other countries had resulted in the influx of these quacks into this country. He thought the only way to stop the influx was to have similar restrictions in this country as existed in the United States, Germany, and other countries. He did not think, taking the instance suggested to him, that a man was swindled in any way by buying Beecham's Pills, for he would have to pay about the same at any chemist's for a decent aperient.

Professor Cushny gave evidence on behalf of the Therapeutic Section of the Royal Society of Medicine. He pointed out that some remedies were injurious to the user, and that, while some drugs were not objectionable therapeutically, yet the claims made for them were very much exaggerated. Many patent medicines were in no way superior to remedies in the British Pharmacopœia, and they simply owed their vogue to the virtues of advertisement He thought the present generation of the public did not know nearly so much about ordinary remedies as their fathers and grandfathers did. The public required education in these matters, but he did not think that education should be left to the medical profession. The British Medical Association was at present sustaining a lawsuit because of an attempt to educate the public. The publication of the formula on the label would be useful, but he did not think it would be a full remedy. He wanted to popularise certain simple and effective medicines, and to give the labels on these the imprimatur of the British Pharmacopœia. He should like to see the Pharmacopœia standing in competition to some extent with the vendors of proprietary pills. It would be one means of educating the public if the British Pharmacopœia was published every year or every five years.

Questioned by the Chairman as to how he thought the sale of patent medicines would be affected by the Insurance Act, witness said he hoped that, as doctors would be a cheap commodity, they would tend to rival the sale of patent medicines.

Professor W. E. Dixon, M.D., of Cambridge, Professor of Materia Medica at King's College, London, gave evidence on behalf of the British Medical Association in regard to the composition and effects of some of the advertised secret remedies, and demonstrated the harm that might arise to the national health from the administration of certain proprietary medicines. He illustrated his point by dealing with two or three common symptoms for which proprietary medicines were frequently taken. Cough, for example. There were two methods for treating cough, and two kinds of cough. One kind of cough was useful, as in the case of an old man whose chest was full of fluid, which the cough removed. The other kind of cough was a useless cough, such as that which occurred in the early stage of phthisis, which ought to be stopped. Proprietary medicines made no attempt to distinguish between the different kinds of cough. A certain well-known lung tonic was an expectorant mixture for facilitating and increasing the cough, its principal constituent being ipecacuhana. Witness mentioned two particular makes of lozenges, which he said had the different object of attempting to stop cough. Referring to headache powders, Professor Dixon said practically all of them were acetanilide, a drug to which he objected. It was a dangerous drug, which ought not to be given under any circumstances. Phenacetin ought in every case to replace it. A simple headache was generally the result of some simple reflex—some trivial trouble with the teeth or the eyes. Such a headache was rapidly stopped by a drug like phenacetin or acetanilide. But for other kinds of headache, such as chronic headache, caused by kidney diseases or typhoid fever, and the headaches caused by all brain troubles, phenacetin or acetanilide was quite worthless. As a last example he might mention dyspepsia. This complaint was as often caused by brain as by stomach trouble. Any cerebral trouble might cause dyspepsia. It was possible to get the same symptoms from simple dyspepsia as from a gastric ulcer or cancer of the stomach. Alluding to obviously fraudulent claims made on behalf of proprietary articles the witness expressed the opinion that if a particular claim was made it ought to be substantiated. In the matter of registered names at the present time the medical profession and retail chemists were greatly befogged by the large number of proprietary names for one and the same substance. If one patented a process one had the right to use that process for fourteen or twenty-one years. At the end of that time the patent would lapse, and anyone—such was the state of the law—would be able to make that substance by their methods and use their proprietary names. But suppose that somebody were to prepare that substance by another method they could give it another fancy name, which would remain theirs for ever. He could multiply examples of this indefinitely. In his opinion, there should be only one name allowed for each substance. Fancy names produced most

terrible muddle. But in order to conform to the law a retail chemist must stock the whole lot of things of different names of the same substance in order to be able to make up doctors' prescriptions. He objected to each wholesale firm having its specific name for the same substance.

The Chairman: Only one person should be allowed to use a fancy name for a particular drug?—All these names should lapse after a certain number of years, and not continue, as at present, for ever.

Sir Philip Magnus: You say if one takes a proprietary medicine it may do more harm than good. I suppose the generalisation from that is that nobody ought to take a proprietary medicine without taking medical advice?—No, not at all. I would not go so far as that. Supposing a man goes to a chemist with a simple cough. The chemist will almost certainly give him some simple mixture which will not do him any harm. On the contrary, a man entering the shop coughing violently and spitting would be questioned as to how long he had had the cough, and, if he ascertained that the man had had it for some time, he would advise him to consult a doctor. I am quite sure hundreds of chemists would do that. In the case of a proprietary medicine, a sufferer reads the account, which is the most comforting thing in the world, of how one of these drugs is going to cure him. Everybody is credulous to a certain extent. The sufferer tries a number of bottles, whereas very often a simple expectorant would often be sufficient.

If a person is suffering from a simple cough would it be much better for him to go to a chemist than to take a proprietary medicine advertised in the Press?—Yes. He might, of course, get opium, which would do him positive harm.

You think a chemist has more skill in prescribing simple homely remedies?—Yes, certainly.

Don't you think the prevalence of dispensing by doctors themselves disposes chemists to do a larger amount of prescribing than they ought to do?—Yes; but I think counter prescribing is the exception rather than the rule. Chemists won't take the responsibility of treating cases.

Supposing a man goes to a chemist, and the chemist knows that if he sends him to a doctor the doctor will dispense for him himself, and the chemist will lose a perfectly legitimate fee?—That is another evil altogether. I question whether medical men ought to dispense at all. My own view is that doctors should not dispense at all, and none of my students are taught to do it.

If counter-prescribing were encouraged, would it have a deterrent effect upon the evil we are discussing?—Yes.

Answering further questions by Dr. Chapple, the witness said no new drug had been produced within the last thirty years, except in the laboratories of the pharmacist. The general practitioner could learn nothing from giving a certain definite kind of treatment to a patient.

Answering Mr. Lawson, witness stated that there was a big group of proprietary medicines which were perfectly genuine things; there was a group of substances in which articles were made into pleasant foods and remedies; and there was the group of secret remedies in regard to which extravagant and fraudulent claims were made. Apart from fraudulent claims, he condemned all secret remedies as such. He strongly advocated that it should be made compulsory on local authorities to take proceedings under the Merchandise Marks Act in case of fraudulent claims. A man who had a genuine article never objected to putting the names of the active constituents on the box. It was distinctly for the benefit of the public that the formula should be on the label. The public was always learning. One never saw a man go into a chemist's shop without wanting to know all about the article he was buying. He hoped the proprietor of a patent medicine would be put on the same level as the registered chemist and druggist in the matter of responsibility for purity of drugs and so on.

The Chairman asked why, in prescribing, doctors did not use only the scientific name, to which witness replied that the younger doctors did, but the older generation of doctors, who were not in such close touch with modern medical research, knew these drugs only by their fancy name.

Mr. Glyn-Jones: There is a good deal of change coming over the medical profession in their attitude with regard to common drugs?—I think there is.

You have personally had the honour and credit of leading a revolt against a good many of them?—Against some of them.

For instance, I see you stated twelve months ago that quinine was in no sense of the word a tonic?—It is a misuse of the word.

Your view is that the local application of opium and morphia in any form is harmless, though of little value in relieving local pain?—No value at all.

Is that one of the comparatively recent opinions of the profession in regard to the application of morphia and opium locally?—Yes.

I presume you might find very many men in the profession who disagreed with you on that point?—Nobody who has tried it can disagree. It is not a local anæsthetic.

It is used most extensively by the whole profession?—Not the whole. I do not really think many doctors now would use morphia or opium externally to relieve local pain.

Is it a common thing in bruises to prescribe a lead lotion with opium?—No.

Replying to further questions by Mr. Glyn-Jones, the witness said it was true acetanilide was in the British Pharmacopœia, while acetylsalicylic acid sold under the name of aspirin, was not. But it had been recommended that the latter drug should be put in and the former taken out. Extensive experiments had been made in Germany with aceto-salicylic acid by a number of eminent men, and the expenses were paid by a private firm. The medical men of this country, said the witness, in answer to a question by Mr. Glyn-Jones, got their knowledge of drugs not from the British Pharmacopœia, but from the text-books on pharmacology and therapeutics.

Owing to the absence of any authority doing the work of investigation in connection with drugs, it is left to private enterprise, and private enterprise, in order to recoup itself, attaches a trade

name to the particular article (aspirin) in order that it may be worth their while educating the medical profession as to its merits. Is not that the fact?—There is some truth in it.

My point is that the merits of aceto-salicylic acid have in the main been made known to the medical profession by the owners of the trade-mark aspirin?—Yes, that is true.

Do you think we should be indebted for our knowledge of all these new drugs to private enterprise?—We are not for all of them. The pharmacology sections attached to the universities have done their quota.

Are the medical profession able to give a scintific explanation for the action of all the drugs they use?—There are a few drugs which we cannot give an explanation of, but they are very few indeed.

You think there should be no secrecy in regard to drugs?—Yes.

Do you think it would be a good thing if medical men wrote out their prescriptions in English?—I think they should. They always give their directions in English.

I put it to you the rank-and-file doctors don't want the patient to know what he is being given?—I don't think that.

The Chairman said that, so far as he could judge, witness considered the sale of patent medicines objectionable for various reasons. There was one class where the sale was objectionable because the remedies were injurious in all circumstances, and ought never to be sold, as, for instance, acetanilide. A second class was objectionable because the remedies were dangerous unless administered through a doctor's prescription. A third class, in which the improper use of ordinary drugs—as, for instance, in teething and soothing powders—was objectionable? A fourth class was objectionable because of a false description on the label?—Yes.

Mr. J. C. Umney, managing director of Wright, Layman, and Umney, Limited, said his company were the proprietors and manufacturers of Liquor Carbonis Detergens; it was first introduced to the notice of the medical profession in 1862, and favourable commentaries upon it appeared in the *British Medical Journal* and *Lancet*, in the years 1866 and 1867. Since that time, Liquor Carbonis Detergens had been looked upon as a standard remedy in certain skin diseases. Both Liquor Carbonis Detergens and Wright's Coal Tar Soap, as well as Marza Wine, had received the certificate of merit of the Institute of Hygiene. His firm had never received at any time, as far as he was aware, any complaint of any of the preparations he had mentioned being injurious to health.

He was not aware that any proprietary medicine had at any time been more than a transient commercial success unless possessed of distinct medicinal value, but in saying that he exempted certain preparations sold for "illicit" purposes which were more particularly referred to in the resolutions of the section of the Chamber of Commerce, the kind of frauds which had been attacked in *Truth*, were a totally distinct class of business from that in household proprietary remedies. In the first place, they largely related to mechanical devices, or to cures which were obviously fraudulent. One ground for his statement as to the failure of useless remedies was that there had been a very large number of failures in the advertising agency trade, and an examination of these failures showed that it was largely due to the advertising of new or untried remedies, the small agent generally taking considerable risk in this class of advertising. He could state from his own knowledge that the composition of many of the articles referred to in 'Secret Remedies' were not accurately set out, the inaccuracy not being merely trivial, but the omission of ingredients of medicinal value. He knew this of his own knowledge of what the articles contained; he might give many, but he would give one as a specimen. In Woodward's Gripe Water (page 149 of Vol. 2 of 'Secret Remedies') the most important constituent was omitted, and those given were inaccurate. The result was very misleading, and the placing of that remedy among "Soothing Syrups" conveyed a totally wrong impression. He thought it right to say, from his knowledge of the trade, that four-fifths of the articles mentioned in 'Secret Remedies' were entirely unknown to him. He could mention many articles whose entire ingredients were not given in 'Secret Remedies." Some of the most important constituents were omitted, yet the constituents were discoverable, though perhaps not easily, by chemical analysis.

Proceeding, witness stated that he was able to state from his own knowledge and experience, that the greatest care was taken by a large number of the leading vendors of proprietary medicines to ensure the very highest efficiency in the drugs they purchased and employed, and to ensure the very greatest accuracy in the standardisation of such ingredients in their preparations as admitted of standardisation by chemical methods. He was of opinion that the publication of formulæ, as suggested by most of the medical witnesses, would be of very little advantage to those whom ostensibly the suggestion was intended to protect. First of all, it was needless to refer to the very grave harm that would be inflicted upon those proprietors who had spent large sums of money in building up a business for a legitimate proprietary medicine. The publication of such formulæ would, in the first instance, undoubtedly lead to the imitation of the particular preparation, with some sort of connecting link to show the similarity of another preparation with that offered under the original proprietorship. He was confident that such offers would, as a rule, be for goods of a lower grade, which would in large measure be sold as a result of the advertising of the original proprietor. That would obviously not induce less self-medication, but merely change the maker from the present proprietor with a reputation to a large number of competitors, and if it led to reduction in price that from the self-medication point of view would not be an advantage. He was further of opinion that the publication on the label of the formula containing dangerous drugs would be liable to encourage the so-called drug habit, and that it would be a clear guide as to the amount of the particular objectionable drug contained, and assist the purchaser to know how the drug could be obtained, and also

the limit to which the drug could be taken to get the desired effect. He suggested that it was impossible to seriously suggest that as the main attack on proprietary articles was that it led to self-medication there would not be an enormous advantage to the medical profession if their sale was prevented or limited, and he ventured to think that that fact would induce the Committee to weigh the varying and conflicting reasons given by the medical witnesses in favour of what was admitted to be the likeliest weapon with which to attack proprietary articles—regardless of their value to the public—or to the fact that they were largely used and prescribed by doctors themselves. He had never heard that any complaint had been made that a remedy that did publish its formula did not contain any or all of the constituents stated on the formula. Any offence of that kind must be very rare, or one would have heard of it, and no drastic alteration of the law was necessary to meet that suggestion.

Proprietary medicines in various forms were very largely the bases of some of the medicines in the British Pharmacopœia and other standard works. The British Pharmacopœia, being fifteen years old, one must look to later published standard formularies for many instances. As an instance, one might cite in the British Pharmacopœia the presence of the following:—

Liquor Carbonis Detergens (Liq. Picis Carb.); Liquor Bismuthi (by same name); Ung. Capsici (formerly Smedley's Chilli Paste); Bastick's Tr. Quin. Ammon. (now B.P. without "Bastick's"); Daffy's Elixir (Tr. Sennæ Co., B.P.); Bullock's Glycer. Pepsin (Gly. Pepsini, B.P.); Barff's Boro-Glyceride (Glyc. Acid. Boric., B.P.); Chloric Ether (Duncan, Flockhart Co.) (Spt. Chloroform., B.P.); Pond's Extract (Liq. Hamamelidis, B.P.); Benger's Liq. Pancreat. (Liq. Pancreat., B.P.); Burnett's Solution (Liq. Zinci Chlor., B.P.); Robbin's Sodium Ethylate (Liq. Sodii Ethyl., B.P.); Martindale's Nitroglycerin Tablets (Nitroglycerin Tablets, B.P.). Whilst in the Codex there appeared a long list of such as the following, all of which were in all probability intended to indicate close approximation to certain well-known advertised proprietaries in existence and in large sale before they were put in the Codex:—Chlorodyne, Anodyne Colloid, Elixir Acetomorph. et Pini Co., Elixir Acetomorph. et Terpin., Emuls. Petrol. cum Hypophos., Liquid Malt Combinations, Glyc. Acetomorph., Glyc. Thymol Co., Lin. Aconiti Co., B.P.C., Lin. Methyl Sal., Mist. Bis. Co., Glyc. Pepsin, Pasta Hamamelidis, Pulv. Pancreatic. Co., Syr. Ferri Phosph. Co., Syr. Glycero-phosph. Co., Formaldehyde Tablets, Nitroglycerine, Tinct. Opii Croc., Ung. Methyl. Salicyl. Co., Ung. Rusci Co., Liq. Bromidi Co., Liq. Caryoph. et Pulv. Co., Liq. Cresolis Saponatus, Liq. Euonymi et Iridin, Liq. Opii Sedativ., Liq. Pepticus, Liq. Thymolis Co.

Dr. Norman Walker, in his evidence, stated that certain drugs should not be allowed to be used in proprietary medicines, but in his (witness's) opinion such prohibition was almost impossible, because to make such prohibition effective it would be necessary to extend it to the sale of such scheduled drugs, by pharmacists, except upon a doctor's prescription. If it were not so extended, then such prohibition would be of the most limited value, and in all probability the medicine would be obtained in a more concentrated form from the pharmacist than is the proprietary medicine. Reference had been made to the sale of such bodies as acetanilide, antipyrine, and phenacetin in the form of headache powders, and there had been a suggestion made that limitation should be placed upon their sale in the form of proprietary medicines. He was able to state from his own observation and trading that the amount of these chemicals sold through pharmacists in the form of tablets and powders was very considerable, and would probably exceed that sold in the form of proprietary medicines. Any such prohibitions could obviously not be confirmed to proprietary articles. The Committee's attention had already been called to the powers of the Pharmaceutical Society to extend the Schedule of the Pharmacy Act with the consent of the Privy Council, so that the sale of really dangerous drugs could be limited as provided by that Act. Objection had been taken in some quarters to the presence of alcohol in proprietary medicines, but in his experience there were very few proprietary medicines which contained more alcohol than was necessary for strictly preservative purposes. Moreover, in very many of these medicines he would go further, and state that the proportion of alcohol present did not, as a rule, exceed that in the prescription of medical men prescribed under probably similar conditions to those under which the proprietary medicines would be taken. It might be argued, naturally, that larger doses than those set out on the label of the proprietary remedy might be taken, but the same applied to the medicines prescribed by the doctor, unless the doctor himself actually attended to the administration of it. In one of the best-known medical works for children's illnesses written for laymen—he referred to Howard Barrett on "The Management of Children"—a number of simple prescriptions for use in emergency were given, and they were of the same character, both as to alcoholic strength and otherwise, as those proprietary medicines which would be used under similar circumstances. With regard to medicated wines, objection was taken on the ground that they put alcohol in a drug form before the public, and that in the majority of instances the public was ignorant of the fact that they contained alcohol. This he held to be an extremely improbable assumption, in that the wines were only to be obtained from persons licensed to sell wines, and that they were, as a rule, more expensive than the similar "basic" wines, and most of them stated, in fact, that they were "wines." He did not go into the question of "cost," which was a basis of the attack in the title and contents of "Secret Remedies," because he suggested the allegations were absurd as omitting, even if they were true, which was not the case, the principal item of cost in any article put on the market. The cost of the ingredients of proprietary medicines inserted in the Pharmacopœia was only the actual cost of the drugs. It took no account of the labour or the advertising. It was therefore quite misleading to take the prices named as being the actual cost of the medicines to produce. Some of the drugs

used were very valuable. A suggestion had been made that it might be possible to have some arrangement for the censorship of advertisements in order to protect the public from extravagant and insupportable claims. Whilst one could not help thinking that theoretically the idea was an excellent one as applied to all articles of commerce, he believed in practice it would be found unworkable, and, further, it might be found to be extremely dangerous. It would be unworkable because of the delay that would obviously arise when the mass of advertising matter that was published in this country was considered. Further, it would be impossible to have a system of check that any advertisement which might appear had passed the censor, as complete surveillance would be almost impossible; whilst on the other hand a statement that a particular advertising claim had passed the censorship of the State would in itself constitute to some extent a warranty and guarantee of good faith for the preparation to which it referred. The censorship of advertisements would also be an extremely difficult matter, arising from the natural variations of opinion from time to time as to the value of a particular preparation. For example, a newly-introduced drug which to-day might be held to be a quack remedy might in five years' time find a place in a pharmacopœia. Some of the drugs now in the Pharmacopœia were in the first instance used by quacks, but they were now recognised to be almost the most valuable drugs. Ipecacuanha was, perhaps, the most typical example. It was introduced by a quack to cure one of the sons of a king of France of dysentery. If he were to put a disinfectant composed of attar of roses on the market and said it was six times as strong as carbolic acid he would be laughed at, but this had actually been proved to be the case.

Neither, in his opinion, was a censorship or supervision of constituents possible except under a most elaborate system, and he could vouch from his own personal experience for difficulties which had arisen in connection with the work of the Customs authorities in the Commonwealth of Australia, while their censorship of advertising had really effected little beyond the change of a few adjectives. Dr. Tirard suggested that no reference should be permitted to any disease in any proprietary article—of course, such a proposition, if it was not to be useless, must be extended to cover remedies which were not proprietary in the sense of secret advertised proprietary articles, and include all medicines made up by chemists and sold on their own account from established formularies. He suggested that this was an impossible proposal. It would prevent the sale of a cough mixture, an antibilious pill, etc.

The Owners of Proprietary Articles Section of the London Chamber of Commerce had given the most careful consideration to the "suggestions for further legislation" put forward by Dr. Cox on behalf of the British Medical Association. Dealing with these suggestions it was observed as follows:—

1. The publication on each packet of medicine of the name and quantity of each of its constituents as asked would, while affording no real assistance or protection to the public against fraudulent articles, be a most unfair interference with valuable proprietary rights.

Such publication would enable others to make the article and describe it as made under the genuine formula, and this, while it would probably result in great variation in and a lowering of the standard of quality of the article if made by different manufacturers, would probably not restrict, but, in fact, increase the quantity sold to the public, and would unfairly transfer a large portion of such trade from the original inventor and proprietor to other competitors. The injury inflicted on the owners of proprietary rights would obviously be greater the more valuable and important the recipe of the proprietary medicine might be, and without any protection to the public it would, for the reasons given, result in the destruction of valuable proprietary rights and induce unfair competition.

2. The suggestion that the labels should be made to constitute a warranty, and that false trade descriptions, whether on the labels or in the advertisements, should be made an offence was difficult to deal with on account of the generality of the language employed in the suggestion.

A label or advertisement which contained a false statement might clearly under the existing law form the foundation of civil or criminal proceedings. The vendors of proprietary medicines should be and were, like the vendors of other articles of commerce, liable for any untrue statement or false pretence upon which they obtained a sale of their goods.

3. The provisions of the Foods and Drugs Acts did, except for one section, now apply to proprietary medicines, and it would be obviously impracticable to make the only section of that Act which did not now apply applicable to proprietary or patent articles which were sold under a trade name or as the product of a particular person. It had been held that though proprietary articles were partially excluded from the Acts in question, a purchaser had his remedy either at common law or under the Merchandise Marks Act, 1887.

4. There were at present large powers vested in the Director of Public Prosecutions, in the Police, in the Board of Trade, in the Board of Customs and Excise, and in the Pharmaceutical Society to undertake proceedings, and it was difficult to see what new powers were necessary.

5. No objection would be raised in any way by the Section to an enlargement of the scope of the Indecent Advertisements Act so as to include advertisements in newspapers and exposure in shop windows.

The Section had also carefully considered the evidence taken before the Select Committee, and made the following observations and suggestions.

Any proposed amendment of the law which would compel owners of proprietary articles to disclose their trade secrets or declare the ingredients of their medicines except to the limited extent at present required in respect of poisons by the Poisons and Pharmacy Acts, 1908, would be strongly opposed. The evidence had shown that most of the alleged abuses arose in connection with the sale of abortifacients and anti-conception remedies and the like. The members of this Sec-

tion desired to dissociate themselves entirely from this class of business.

(*a*) As regarded abortifacients, anti-conception remedies, and the remedies purporting to affect sexual virility there might be stringent restrictions forbidding newspaper or circular advertisement. As regarded certain articles of this nature, the offences against the Persons Act, 1861, already provided remedies against the sale of articles of this class.

(*b*) As regarded remedies advertised or held out as specially applicable to ailments peculiar to women, and some of which were useful and often necessary to many at certain times, the public advertisement of these should be in simple language such as not to imply that the medicine was recommended for improper purposes.

(*c*) Remedies claiming to cure the diseases of cancer, consumption, rupture (other than by mechanical appliances), locomotor ataxy, Bright's disease, diabetes, etc. Public newspaper or circular advertisement of any such medicines claiming to cure such diseases might be made illegal, and no statement should be made on any label on any medicine that it would cure any of such diseases.

Restrictions for the above-named purposes could be advantageously dealt with by amendments to the Indecent Advertisements Act, in connection with which it was understood there was at present an amending Bill under the consideration of the Home Secretary.

(*d*) As regarded other proprietary medicines, it was felt very strongly that no case had been made for any interference with the large and reputable trade in proprietary medicines.

Complaint had been made before the Committee, though not supported by particular evidence, that dangerous habit-forming or poisonous drugs were freely sold to the public under the disguise of proprietary medicines. This Section would call attention to the Poisons and Pharmacy Acts, which enabled any drug, the free sale of which ought to be restricted, to be placed on the Poisons Schedule by the Pharmaceutical Society with the consent of the Privy Council, and this schedule was subject to any necessary extension without further legislation. The public were fully protected. If any further legislation was necessary, which was not admitted, it was suggested that any amending legislation might be on the following lines:—

1. Every manufacturer or representative in this kingdom must, before offering proprietary medicines for sale, procure from the Inland Revenue a certificate of registration of such medicine.

2. Such manufacturer or representative should, when applying for the certificate of registration, furnish the following particulars:—

(*a*) A list of the medicine or medicines proposed to be made or imported—such list might be added to from time to time.

(*b*) The principal address of the manufacturer or representative in this country.

(*c*) For the use of the Inland Revenue Departments the name of any poisons within the meaning of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, and if the maximum dose recommended should exceed the average or mean dose mentioned in the British Pharmacopœia, the quantity of poison contained in any of such medicines must also be given.

3. The Departments to send to the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society a copy of any certificate issued in respect of any proprietary medicine containing poison within the meaning of the Pharmacy Act.

4. The certificate issued to be numbered, and contain the particulars given on the form of application.

5. Every package of medicine issued to contain the number of the certificate. No vendor should indicate that the certificate of registration in any way affected the merit of the proprietary article, and no reference to such certificate other than by statute provided should be made on any label, package, or circular, or advertising matter.

6. The Departments to have power to refuse or cancel a certificate for the sale of any medicine sold contrary to law, or which did not correspond with the certificate of registration.

7. Any manufacturer who might be refused a certificate or have it cancelled to be entitled to a full statement of the Departments' reason for their action, and to have a right to appeal to the Court.

8. Proper penalties to be imposed on any manufacturer or dealer knowingly selling a proprietary medicine contrary to law.

The Chairman said that so interesting and so necessarily technical was the evidence of the witness that the Committee were unanimous in their desire to postpone their examination of witness until they had had time to read and consider his evidence. They therefore wished that he would attend at the Committee's next meeting. He proposed, however, to ask a few general questions.

What is the composition of the Proprietary Articles Section of the London Chamber of Commerce?—It consists of some 400 firms and companies manufacturing proprietary articles, not necessarily medicines.

What proportion would be of medicines coming within the scope of our inquiry?—About three-quarters.

How does any manufacturer or vendor of these articles become a member of that Section?—By applying to the London Chamber of Commerce for membership and by paying subscriptions. It is necessary to have a proposer and seconder.

Except in the case of some obviously very improper medicine there would be no difficulty in finding a proposer and seconder?—I do not think there would be.

You do not exercise any authority upon the character of the medicine sold?—It is no part of the function of that Section to exercise any control over the medicine sold.

Is there a large disreputable trade in proprietary medicine?—I think there is a disreputable

trade; I cannot say it is a large one; but I can say that the reputable trade is a large one, and on a secure basis.

Mr. Charles Harold Ratcliffe, one of the joint managing directors of Messrs. A. J. White, Limited, of 35 Farringdon Road, London, was next called to give evidence. He said his company were the proprietors of "Mother Seigel's Syrup."

The witness, proceeding, said that "Mother Seigel's Syrup" was a remedy now about forty years old, and during the whole of that period it had never been found necessary to alter the formula. The company was not a mushroom concern. It gave direct employment to 250 to 350 employees, and paid between £30,000 and £40,000 per annum in wages, and about £5,000 per annum in rents, rates, and taxes of premises. Not a single case of injury to life or health from taking the syrup had even come to their notice. Seigel's Syrup did not contain any scheduled poison nor any deleterious drug, and its usefulness could, he thought, be fairly assumed from its forty years' continuous sale. Seigel's Syrup had been referred to in "Secret Remedies," and the formula suggested in that book was almost grotesque in its incompleteness. The genuine Seigel's Syrup contained eleven different vegetable extracts not mentioned in the "Secret Remedies" analyses. Those extracts had each a recognised therapeutic value. He did not desire to publish their names.

The Chairman: How can the Committee accept your statement that there are eleven vegetable extracts when the Committee is not to be put into possession of what those extracts are?

Witness replied that it was possible to determine by analysis that the Syrup did contain vegetable extracts, but it was impossible for the analyst to make a list of the extracts. The Medical Officer of Health for Liverpool in 1907 did find by analysis the presence of various vegetable extracts, yet "Secret Remedies" ignored their presence. He alleged that "Secret Remedies" had made an inaccurate analysis. He was prepared to give the Committee the names of the vegetable extracts so long as the information went no further.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Mr. D. McAlpine's First Progress Report on bitter pit in apples, although rather voluminous, clears the ground for future action. An idea of the principal points can be seen from the table of contents and from the summary at page 109. One important point has already been established as the result of experiments, that overseas shipments of clean fruit will be free from bitter pit on reaching its destination if kept at a constant and sufficiently low temperature, viz., 30-32 degrees F. The scientific explanation of this fact is that at 1 or 2 degrees F. below the freezing point of water, the respiration of the apple is suspended, and, in this state of suspended animation or dormancy, the development of bitter pit is retarded.

It would hardly be imagined that anything new was to be found out in such common objects as the apple or pear, and yet now in each was discovered a most beautiful and delicate network of vessels immediately beneath the skin, to regulate and equalise the distribution of food-material in the area where the greatest and most rapid growth necessarily takes place.

The problem of bitter pit has been the despair of American, German, and British scientists, but Mr. McAlpine's report shows that progress has been made in Australia, even in the first year of official investigation.

POISONING CASES.

Arsenic—An inquiry was held by Dr. Cole on November 25 concerning the death of George Douglas (43), late of Victoria-street, Richmond, news agent. Evidence was given that deceased had found some arsenic, which was kept for poisoning rats. He took some, with the result that death ensued shortly afterwards. A verdict of death from arsenical poisoning, self-administered, was returned.

Prussic Acid.—An inquiry was held at the Morgue on November 28 concerning the death of David John Staley (47), commercial traveller, who died on November 12 at his residence, Dandenong-road, Caulfield. A verdict of death from prussic acid poisoning was returned.

Liniment.—Constable Stewart, of Ballarat South police station, was admitted to the local hospital on November 30 suffering from the effects of a poisonous liniment taken by mistake for a cough mixture. He recovered under treatment.

Lysol—E. Sibley (32) died at Bruthen on December 1 from poisoning. An inquiry was held. A verdict of death from lysol, self-administered, was returned.

Strychnine—A son of Mr. Edmund Kiely, Upper Edi, aged three years, found some strychnine in a trunk on December 3, and swallowed portion of the poison. Medical assistance was obtained, and the child recovered.

Lysol—Mrs. B. A. Smith, married, 43, Princes-street, Fitzroy, was found dead in her room on December 9. A cup containing lysol was found under the bed and also a half-empty bottle of the poison. Frederick Ridgeway (21), engineer, died on November 30 from lysol poisoning. In neither of these cases was any reason given why the poison should have been taken.

Permanganate of Potash.—A case of poisoning by Permanganate of Potash occurred at Collingwood, on December 19. The police were informed, and the girl, who was a waitress, was taken to the Melbourne Hospital for treatment.

"SANITAS" DISINFECTANTS
ALL KINDS AND CO-EFFICIENTS.
THE "SANITAS" CO. LTD. LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.
Agents for these in bulk only—Messrs. HAMER & CO., PERTH, W.A.

THE AUSTRALASIAN

Journal of Pharmacy

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The Organ of Pharmacy in the Australasian Colonies. Devoted to the advancement of Pharmaceutical knowledge, and to the advocacy of a more thorough education and practical training for all persons engaged in preparing and dispensing medicines, drugs, and chemicals. It is issued gratis to the members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia in

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COMMUNICATIONS for the EDITORIAL Department of this Journal must be addressed to THE EDITOR, SWANSTON ST., MELBOURNE.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

Contributions of any items of interest are invited.

Advertisements to be inserted in the next issue should be received by the Publisher not later than the 14th of each month.

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Melbourne—360 SWANSTON STREET.
Telephone 643.

Readers are respectfully requested to mention this Journal when acting on information obtained from it.

VICTORIA.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on the 11th December. Present—Mr. . Lacey (in the chair), and Messrs. Bailey, Francis, Ogg, Strutt and Towl.

The consideration of section 5 of the Poisons Act in reference to the granting of certificates as dealers in poisons in places distant at least four miles from any city, town or borough, and in which no registered pharmaceutical chemist has an open shop, and after a lengthy conference with the Board's solicitor, it was decided to again submit the matter for further consideration by council.

Mr. F. Buckhurst, who recently wrote bringing under notice the hopeless condition under which country pharmacists laboured, and who was asked to attend before the Board, was present, and made a statement that while recently canvassing for members of the Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd. in the Western district of Victoria, many cases of infringement of the Poisons Act came under his notice. In one of the places he visited he personally purchased a bottle of Fellow's Syrup from a local storekeeper with whom he afterwards had some conversation, and pointed out to him that he was breaking the law.

The President asked if any of the persons who had made complaints had communicated with the Board.

Mr. Buckhurst said he could not say if they had. Personally he thought that such a duty should not be cast on any chemist. He thought that it was the duty of the Board to employ inspectors to visit country districts, and the Government should be asked to find the funds. It was not the duty of a pharmacist to become an informer.

The President: The services of the police are available, and have always been utilised when any complaints have been made, and it was not reasonable to suppose that action could be taken unless some information was furnished. It was not a fact that when a complaint was made no action had been taken. Many of the complaints made to the Board were in reference to the sale of poisonous preparations for the destruction of vermin or for agricultural or horticultural use. These were, under certain conditions, exempt from the provisions of the Poisons Act.

Mr. Buckhurst said that he had been informed by the secretary of the Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd. that there had only been four prosecutions in country districts during the past ten years, and that these had been instituted by the police, and that when cases were brought under notice the excuse was made that it was too costly to take proceedings in small country districts.

Mr. Lacey said that he would be glad if Mr. Buckhurst could give definite information as to any case where evidence which would sustain a conviction had not been gone on with on the ground that it was too costly.

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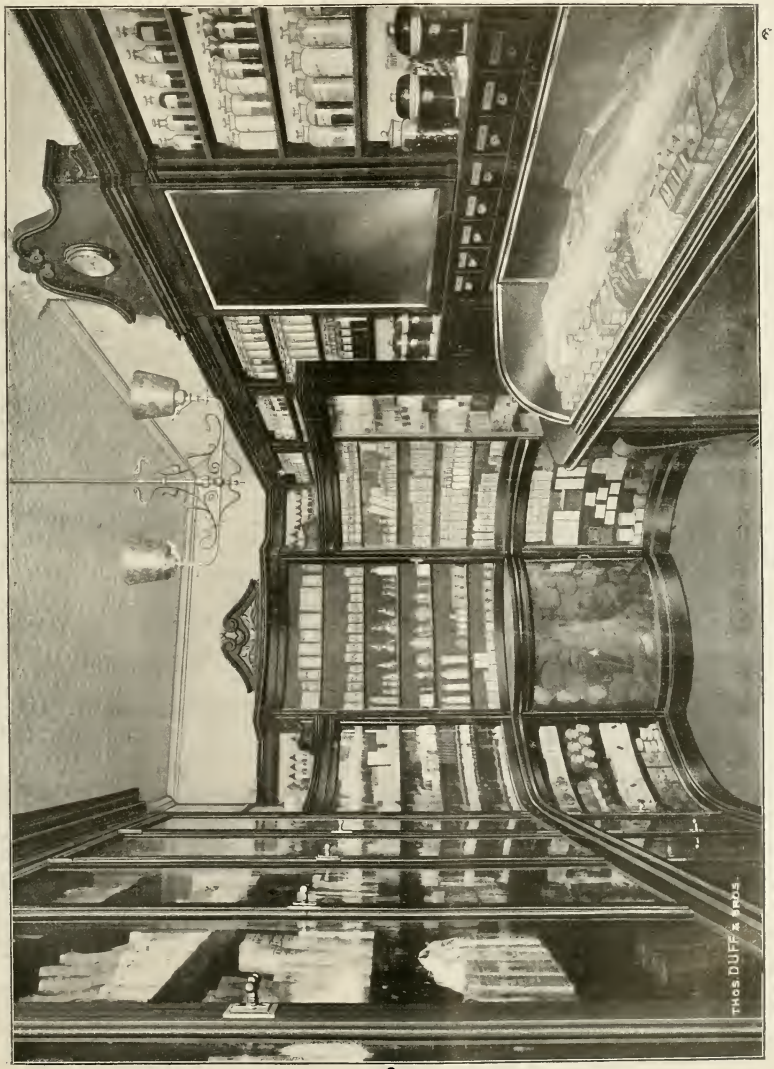

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Mr. Buckhurst said there was no doubt that country pharmacists felt that their interests were being neglected, and that some steps should be taken to uphold the law.

The Board adjourned until Wednesday, the 18th inst., to enable the reports of the examiner to be received.

The adjourned meeting was held on the 18th December. Present: Mr. Lacey (President, in the chair), and Messrs. Bailey, Francis and Towl.

A large amount of routine correspondence was read and minuted.

Applications for Registration.—The following were granted:—Robert Alexander Easton, Warrnambool, certificate Pharm. Society, Great Britain; Herbert Alfred Baird, 215 Elizabeth-street, Melbourne, passed final examination December, 1912.

Apprentices' Indentures Registered.—Eric Simson Bissett, to G. E. Gulliver, Melbourne; George William Judd, to R. Hughes, Rutherglen.

Section 5 of the Poisons Act.—The result of a conference with counsel in reference to the construction to be placed on section 5 of the Poisons Act was again under consideration. The opinion stated: "The section means that any person can apply for a certificate as a dealer in poisons in respect of any place which is distant at least four miles from any city, town or borough, provided no registered pharmaceutical chemist has open shop in such place. The distance of four miles refers only to city, town or borough. It follows that the only matters to be considered in dealing with an application are—(1) Is the place where the applicant resides distant at least four miles from any city, town or borough? (2) Is there a registered pharmaceutical chemist keeping an open shop in such place? (3) Is the application in order? If the Board is satisfied on each of these points the certificate must be granted.

Additions to the Poison Schedule.—It was resolved that a regulation be prepared for submission to the Governor-in-Council adding Phosphorus and all preparations of phosphorus (except matches) and Carbolic Acid, and liquid preparations of carbolic acid, and its homologues, containing more than 3 per cent. of those substances to the schedule to the Poisons Act.

The December Examinations.—The following reports were received from the examiners:—

Preliminary Examination (held at Melbourne, Ballarat, Shepparton, Portland and Warrnambool).—Joan Fowler, Bendigo; Basil Besemeres, Ballarat East; Frank F. Eddie, Malvern; Ida Williams, Ballarat. Eligible to take the subjects indicated at the next examination: Algebra, S. W. Ponting, A. W. Marriott; Latin, M. J. Dyer; Algebra and Euclid, Eric Scott.

Intermediate Examination (Chemistry, Practical Chemistry, Materia Medica and Botany).—Ralph Barnes, Minyip; Irene M. Hearn, Albert Park; Charles G. Wood, North Carlton; Walter Widdowson, East Malvern; Frederick C. Wittmann, Brighton; Doris A. Smith, Camberwell; Walter F. Philpot, Melbourne; Edward Potter, Port Melbourne; John W. Florance, Camperdown; Kathleen V. Humphreys, Fitzroy; Thomas A. H. Ready, Melbourne; George S. Corson, Armadale. Eligible to take the subjects indicated at future examination: J. W. Nobbs, practical chemistry and oral materia medica; A. M. M. Ulrich, chemistry and materia medica papers; W. T. L. Frearson, botany, oral and paper; D. Alston, materia medica paper; S. H. Marshall, materia medica paper; W. T. Gill, practical chemistry; G. H. Pleasance, practical chemistry and botany paper; C. M. Pleasance, practical chemistry; A. H. Gamble, materia medica and botany papers; V. G. Morieson, chemistry paper and practical; A. H. Crundall, chemistry, paper and practical; C. Phillips, materia medica paper; D. G. Patchell, chemistry paper; J. O'Donoghue, materia medica and botany papers.

A student was found during the examination in possession of some notes, from which he was copying. The case was reported to the Board, who disqualified the candidate from presenting himself for examination for two years.

Final Examination (Practical Pharmacy).—W. H. Brookman, Toorak; Gladys R. Andrew, Auburn; Thomas G. Mitchell, Castlemaine; Herbert A. Baird, Melbourne; Elbertine, R. Wastley, Hawthorn; A. J. Williamson, Castlemaine; A. G. Finlayson, Stawell; Louisa Wilkinson, Preston. Eligible to take subjects indicated at future examination: Jack Digby, Div. I., practical; Dorothy Edwards, Div. I., paper; C. V. Rees, Div. I., paper; A. V. Huntsman, Div. III., paper and practical; G. S. Corson, Div. III., paper and practical; Kathleen V. Humphreys, Div. I., practical, and Div. III., practical.

Names erased from the Pharmaceutical Register.—The following names have been erased for non-compliance with the requirements of Section 83 of the Medical Act 1890:—Robert Anderson, Clive-road, Auburn; George F. Chamberlain, Commercial-road Prahran; William Henry Cozens, Clunes; Geo. E. Dermer, 121 Chapel-street, Windsor; Frederick C. Farrant, Collie, W.A.; John Holmes Goodrick, 73 Auburn-road, Auburn; John C. Macgregor, Beverley, W.A.; Albert E. Pulling, 152 Mills street, Albert Park; William C. Sutton, Harney-street, Bendigo; John Thomas Taylor, Tallangatta; Arthur E. S. Vernon, 40 Beaconsfield-parade, St. Kilda; John Whinnera, 499 Lygon-street, North Carlton; John A. Vine, Eyrie-street, West Ballarat; Alice Wolstenholme, 6 Avoca-street, South Yarra.

The names of Ferdinand Duval, Narrandera, New South Wales, and John Manners, Melbourne, deceased, were also erased.

Reports from the Police in connection with deaths from poison, and also with reference to warnings given to persons for infringing the Poisons Act, were read and minuted.

The Treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement.

The Pharmaceutical Register for the year ending December, 1912, was laid on the table.

The following are the members who retire by effluxion of time:—James Lacey, Arthur L. Cogg, Samuel S. Strutt.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held on Monday, 16th December. Present: Mr. A. R. Bailey (in the chair), and Messrs. Imes, Owen, Pickford and Taylor.

Correspondence.—

Mr. G. Watkins, Treasurer Australasian Pharmacy Conference, wrote acknowledging the receipt of the Society's subs. to the Conference.

The Registrar Dental Board, asking that provision be made for the examination of 21 students in the chemistry section of the Dental course.—Request complied with.

Mr. Donald Turner, of North Sydney, wrote that he became a member of the society in 1878, when he resided in New Zealand. He allowed his membership to lapse in 1882. He was now desirous of becoming registered, and desired to be informed if his certificate of membership in 1878 would entitle him to claim registration. A reply was sent that under no conditions could such a certificate be accepted, as the only qualification which could be accepted was that of being on a Pharmacy register of a State which is in the reciprocity agreement.

Associate Members.—Applications from five qualified assistants for election as Associate members were under the consideration of the Council, but inasmuch as there was only provision in the Articles of Association for the admission of members and apprentices, it was resolved that provision be made for admitting Associate members, and that the names be referred to the society's solicitor to draft a clause for submission to the next annual meeting.

Representation on the Faculty of Medicine of the Melbourne University.—Dr. F. Hobill Cole was nominated as the representative of the College of Pharmacy.

The Treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement, and it was resolved to transfer the sum of £100 to the Trust College Building Fund.

In view of the Christmas holidays and the meeting of the Australian Pharmacy Conference, it was decided that the next Council meeting be postponed until the 15th January.

Reports of Lecturers.

Materia Medica and Pharmacy.—We have the honour to submit a report on the work done by the third year medical students of the Melbourne University at the College of Pharmacy during the past session.

Fifty-one students entered for the course of Materia Medica and Practical Pharmacy.

The time is somewhat limited for the amount of work set forth in the Syllabus, but nevertheless the whole of the work was carried out in its entirety and in detail.

In the subject of Practical Pharmacy students were required each day to submit their work to the Lecturer or Demonstrator, and have it marked "satisfactory" before they were entered as present on the roll. In the subject of Materia Medica it was found necessary for several extra lectures in addition to those scheduled to be delivered.

The general conduct of the class has been most praiseworthy. They have been assiduous in their practical work, attentive during the lectures, and orderly in their behaviour.

F. Hobill Cole,
Lecturer in Practical Pharmacy.
Sidney Plowman,
Lecturer in Materia Medica.

Chemistry.—I have the honour to report that 35 students attended lectures during the present year. Some of these had previously attended lectures elsewhere.

The examination for the class prizes awarded was held on the last day of the session. The results obtained were not as satisfactory as usual, the best marks being secured by Mr. A. Barnes with 67 per cent., Mr. C. Wood with 60 per cent., and Mr. W. Widdowson with 58 per cent.

The lecturer's prize, for the best average obtained at the test examinations, both theoretical and practical, held at intervals during the year, is awarded to Mr. C. Wood, who obtained 86 per cent., with honourable mention to Miss Doris Smith, who obtained 80 per cent. These test examinations, and the criticism which each student receives on his work, give the members of the class an opportunity of learning to express themselves with clearness and precision, and it is interesting to see each year how many who at the earlier tests fail to find a place in the class-list improve as the year goes on.

Thirty-six extra students have attended during the year to do volumetric and analytical work.

The Dental Class this year has been larger than usual, there being 30 dental students, and, in addition, the class was attended by three others as a preparation for the College course.

During the year I delivered a course of lectures on "The Principles of Optics," to the members of the Victorian Optical Class. This was followed by a similar course on "Practical Optics" by Mr. H. Baker. The course was well attended by pharmacists, and by those connected with optical work, and was followed with great interest and attention. Should such a course be repeated it would be desirable to make it longer in order to afford time for dealing more adequately with fundamental principles.

Mr. Parry has during the year rendered most effective aid as demonstrator, both in the regular and extra classes.

A. W. Craig,
Director of the Chemical Laboratory.

The following are the questions given at the Examination for Class Prizes, 20th November, 1912:—

1. Give an account of Dumas' experiment for determining the gravimetric composition of water. Why is copper oxide used in the experiment?

2. Describe the action of heat on the following salts—Calcium carbonate, sodium sulphate, magnesium sulphate, sodium hydrogen phosphate, magnesium ammonium phosphate, ammonium acetate, ammonium oxalate.

3. How does lead occur in nature, and how is the metal obtained? Describe the method of preparation of three official salts of lead, and give the tests by which the metal is identified in the laboratory.

4. Describe and compare the action of solutions of caustic potash and of ammonia on solutions of copper sulphate and mercuric chloride respectively.

5. Describe the preparation of sodium phosphate and sodium arsenate, and give reactions distinguishing between the two salts.

6. Give as full an account as you can of the chemistry of the Fatty Acids.

MATERIA MEDICA.—I have the honour to report upon the year's work.

While going through the syllabus as usual, I endeavoured to make the work still more appreciated by the students and of practical value to them. I gave two lectures on Vaccines, Serums, and Toxines, necessarily brief, but, I think, enough to enable the hearers to understand this important branch of daily work.

In the Class Prize Examination, Ralph Barnes came first with 82 per cent., Doris Smith second with 78 per cent., W. Widdowson third with 75 per cent., and I recommend accordingly. The Lecturer's Prize was awarded to W. R. Barnes.

In Pharmacy it was found necessary to pay a good deal of attention to Latinity of prescriptions and to pharmaceutical arithmetic; both these seem to be weaknesses of the average student. As much work as possible was done in illustrating methods, discussing formulas, incompatibles, etc.

THE PHARMACY CLASS.—I am still disappointed with the attendance, but, I feel sure, that if students fully knew and understood the benefits to be gained, the number would be larger.

I cannot close my report without a word as to the good behaviour of the class throughout. I also wish to express my appreciation of Mr. Parry's unostentatious but constant help.

T. E. TURNER,
Lecturer in Materia Medica and Pharmacy.

MATERIA MEDICA.—The following were the questions given. Time allowed: Three hours:—

1. Name the official products of N.O. Urticaceæ and the official preparations made from them. Comment briefly on the pharmaceutical and economic importance of the order.

2. Draw diagrams of sections of (a) Myristica, (b) Stramonii Semina, (c) Anisi Fructus, (d) Cubeba, (e) Limonis Fructus, (f) Pimenta.

3. Write an account of Opium. Explain the reasons for the B.P. process of assay. What principle was followed in making Heroin from Morphine?

4. State the natural and artificial sources of Salicylates. Acidum Aceto-salicylicum is one of the most used of so-called synthetics. What is the difference between it and Acidum Salicylicum, and what advantage does it possess over the latter for use as a medicine?

5. Bos Taurus. Name the official products. Of what use is milk in Material Medica?

6. Draw diagrams of the microscopic appearance of the three official starches. What was the effect of polarised light when examining arrowroot starch?

7. What do you understand by Vaccine Therapy? What are bacteria? Define pathogenic organism, opsonin, antigen, antibody.

8. This prescription was met with recently in a pharmacy:—R. Hyd. Subchlor. grs v. ft pulv. Hac nocte h. s.s. et rep in hebdom. Write out in full Latin and translate into English.

9. Give the doses of (a) Tinctura Lobeliæ Aetherea, (b) Sulphonal, (c) Jalapæ Resina, (d) Strychnina, (e) Oleum Ricini, (f) Oleum Crotonis.

BOTANY.—I have the honour to submit to you a report of the work done with the class in Botany at the College of Pharmacy, as well as the results of the competitive examinations in that subject. Thirty-four students in all attended the lectures and demonstrations. The work, as set forth on the syllabus, was carried out in its entirety. I consider, however, that when the syllabus is next printed there should be some modifications. I have consulted Canon Hart upon this point, and we have agreed as to what changes are desirable. During the session, four Progress Examinations have been held, in addition to the Terminal Examination for the Council Prizes.

Excursions to the Melbourne Botanical Gardens and into the country, near Melbourne, for the purpose of doing field work, have been carried out. Microscopic demonstrations have been held, but the students have experienced a difficulty in securing time for these. As a result of the Terminal Examinations for the Council Prizes, I make the following recommendations:—

Silver Medal—Doris Smith with 78 per cent. marks.

Bronze Medal — Ralph Barnes with 71 per cent. marks.

Certificate of Honour—Irene Hearne with 68 per cent. marks.

I award the Lecturer's prize of books to Miss A. Ulrich. This prize is for the position taken in the Progress Examinations, for microscopic work, and for reference of plants to their respective natural orders. I desire to give my best thanks to Mr. Cronin, Director of the Melbourne Botanical Gardens, for the ample supply of typical specimens throughout the session, and to Mr. Baker of the Botanical Museum for his kindly assistance in naming many indigenous and other plants. Mr. Parry, the demonstrator at the College, has assisted me with zeal, intelligence, and efficiency.

SIDNEY PLOWMAN,
Lecturer on Botany.

BOTANY—Examination for Class Prizes, November 27th, 1912.

1. Describe the reproduction of Pteris.

2. Describe fully the N.O. Rutaceæ. Discuss the tribes into which it is divided. Compare Rutaceæ with Myrtaceæ.

3. Describe the reproduction of Coniferæ.

4. How is turgidity affected by transpiration? How is the transpiration current maintained? Describe an experiment illustrating root pressure.

5. Describe briefly the following: — Xylem, phloem, trackeid, sieve tube, scerenachyma, collenchyma, scalariform vessel, bordered pit.

6. Describe minutely the growing point of a dicotyledonous stem. How does it increase in length and breadth?

7. Describe fully the fruits of the N.O. Rosaceæ.

Handwriting and spelling will be taken into account.

Candidates are invited to illustrate their answers with diagrams.

The College of Pharmacy Class Prize List, 1912:

The following are the awards:—

Chemistry—
Silver Medal—Ralph Barnes.
Bronze Medal—Charles Gilbert Wood.
Certificate of Honor—Walter Widdowson
Lecturer's Prize—Charles Gilbert Wood.

Materia Medica—
Silver Medal—Ralph Barnes.
Bronze Medal—Doris A. Smith.
Certificate of Honor—Walter Widdowson.
Lecturer's Prize—Ralph Barnes.

Botany—
Silver Medal—Doris A. Smith.
Bronze Medal—Ralph Barnes.
Certificate of Honor—Irene M. Hearn.
Lecturer's Prize—Aldehaid M. M. Ulrich.

Victorian Optical Class.

The examination of students who attended the classes in "The Principles of Optics" and "Practical Optics" was held at the College of Pharmacy on November 20, 21, and 27. The following passed in order of merit:—

Course I.—"The Principles of Optics"—R. Barnes, W. J. Aird, W. J. Broadbent, John Broadbent, G. F. H. Attwood, E. H. Charles, E. A. Williams, C. H. Forster, J. C. Pickford, E. C. Hughes, C. A. Owen, J. P. Trainor, H. J. Murray, T. J. Frazer, W. M. Harbison, J. Smart, W. J. Williams, V. H. Wastell.

Course II.—"Practical Optics"—F. L. Baker, W. J. Aird, H. C. Fischer, V. H. Wastell, J. Wellman, C. A. Owen, John Broadbent, H. S. Bell, E. H. Charles, E. A. Williams, R. Barnes, F. C. Needham, W. J. Broadbent, G. F. H. Attwood, A. Rowson, W. J. Williams, J. P. Trainor, M. Hamburger, R. C. Linder, J. M'Nee, J. C. Pickford, O. H. Forster, C. M. Dawe, E. C. Hughes, S. Weisser, T. J. Frazer.

It should be a source of satisfaction to the many who have recourse to the optician for aids to vision to know that this class has been established, and has during the current year been largely availed of by established opticians and others for the teaching of theoretical and practical optics. The country opticians have shown even greater enthusiasm than those in the city; students having during the currency of the classes made weekly visits from such distant sources as Wangaratta, Bendigo, Korumburra, and other distant places.

The classes were commenced under the auspices of the College of Pharmacy and the Victorian Optical Society, and were held at the College of Pharmacy. The hope of those who practise as opticians is that a high standard of qualification may be obtained for the raising of the status of opticians generally, and the protection of the public which is served by them.

Pharmaceutical Defence Limited.

The Directors met at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on December 13. Present: Mr. Buckhurst (in the chair), and Messrs. Cornell, Francis, Gulliver, Rankin, and Towl. Apologies from Messrs. Church and Peters.

On confirmation of the minutes, the office-bearers retired by effluxion of time. Election of chairman, Mr. Buckhurst was re-elected; Vice-chairman—Mr. Church owing to ill-health was not a candidate, and Mr. Gulliver was elected; Treasurer—Mr. George Francis was re-elected Hon. Treasurer.

Correspondence.—From South Australia Chemists' Defence Association stating that four of their members would be visiting Melbourne to attend the Pharmaceutical Conference, and had been appointed a committee to enquire into the P.D.L. movement. From Mr. R. C. Cowley, enclosing letter from Mr. A. Wadsworth, president of the A.P. Conference, stating that the recognition of Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd. could not, under the rules, be considered until the Executive met in Melbourne. From the I.O.A. forwarding cheque of £17 3s. for commission, also credit notes for insurance effected on behalf of Messrs. Leete, Sutcliffe, Cohn, Power, Raffan, Mulhall, and Buckhurst.

Election of New Members.—J. N. Woolcott, Warracknabeal; John Wilson, Cheltenham; Henry Paulden, North Melbourne; J. A. Anderson, Nhill; Henry C. Dyte, Northcote; Norman G. Pitt, Newmarket; R. O. Hughes, Rutherglen; James Blackie, Euroa; Harold E. Elphick, Maldon; W. O. Straede, Oakleigh.

The Opium Order.—The chairman reported that as the result of the representations made the Customs Order relating to the disposition of opium by pharmacists had been modified in such a way as to be entirely unobjectionable.

The Veterinary Board.—A communication was received from the Veterinary Board stating that a legal interpretation of the sections in the Act referring to pharmacists might be the best method of settling the points which had been raised. The secretary said that he had had an interview with the Registrar of the Veterinary Board on the subject. It was resolved that the Board be informed that legal advice had been taken, and that, according to the opinion given, pharmacists had the right to prescribe veterinary medicines in their open shops, and to use the words "veterinary medicines" or "veterinary chemist."

Wages Board Proposals.—The chairman outlined the work which had been done in connection with the proposed Chemists' Wages Board.

Military Dispensing Allowance.—A communication was received from the Defence Department, in reference to the allowance of 10s. per annum for providing medicines for members of the Instructional Staff and their families, stating that it was not proposed to increase the amount except under very special circumstances, in which case £1 per family might be authorised by the

Military Board. It was resolved that pharmacists be advised not to accept the work under the above conditions, and that further representations be made to the Department, suggesting that a tariff scale, allowing a small percentage on cost, would be more equitable and satisfactory than the present arrangement.

The I.O.A. and Underwriters' Association.—The chairman said that he had attended a meeting of the directors of the I.O.A. by invitation, and that after considering the various aspects of the case as presented by him, the directors had agreed not to disturb the present arrangement with the P.D.L.

Country Members' Travelling Expenses.—The question of re-imbursing country directors their travelling expenses was further considered. Mr. Towl said that he thought that the country directors were entitled to this small consideration. Mr. Gulliver said that if this were conceeded, the chairman should re-imbursed his out-of-pocket expenses, and the secretary should be more liberally treated. Mr. Francis said that every one was giving a large amount of time to the work. All the offices were practically honorary. Mr. Cornell said that he had talked the matter over with Mr. Peters, and they thought that the principle should be affirmed, and that when the company was in a position to pay travelling expenses, they should be paid. It was decided to ask the country associations to defray half the travelling expenses, the P.D.L. to pay the other half. Mr. Cornell said he thought this would be satisfactory until the company was in a stronger financial position.

Interview with Pharmacy Board.—The chairman said that he attended the meeting of the Pharmacy Board on December 11, and laid before the Board the complaints which had been made in reference to the slackness which characterised the administration of the Poisons Act in the country districts.

Vacancies on the Pharmacy Board.—The chair said that Messrs. Farmer, Lacey, and Strutt, were the retiring members of the Board. Mr. R. P. Francis also intended resigning. Mr. Towl said that he understood that Mr. Strutt did not intend to re-nominate. The secretary said that Mr. Ogg had informed him that he intended to retire. The chairman said that, seeing that there were likely to be five vacancies on the Board, every effort should be made to secure good men to fill them, and that the country should be represented on the Board. He had already interviewed three gentlemen, who, he thought, would be an acquisition to the Board. Mr. Rankin moved, and Mr. Francis seconded, that a nomination be made for every vacancy on the Board, and that the members of the P.D.L. be asked to do their utmost to secure the return of the selected candidates, who would be asked to stand on a reform ticket.

Finance.—Treasurer submitted financial statement, showing balance of £92 6s. 2d. in the general account, and £200 in the reserve fund.

Vote of Thanks.—A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Church, the retiring vice-chairman, for the assistance he had given in the foundation of the company.

DENTAL.

Dental Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting was held on the 15th of November, 1912. The President (Dr. Springthorpe) occupied the chair. There were present: Mr. Elvins, Mr. Hall, Mr. Iliffe, Mr. McGregor, Dr. Philpots and the Registrar (Mr. E. Joske).

Dental Prosecution.

The Registrar reported the result of the prosecution of W. E. Thomas at Shepparton on the 12th of November for using the title of "Dr." contrary to the provisions of the Dentists Act 1910. The defendant did not appear, but his counsel, Mr. Arthur, pleaded that the printer of the *Shepparton Advertiser* had in error inserted an old advertisement in that newspaper, and that the defendant was not a party to such insertion nor responsible for it, although he admitted that he (the defendant) had paid for it.

The police magistrate (Mr. Knight, P.M.) intimated that he would with some hesitation give the defendant the benefit of the doubt.

The Registrar stated that, under the circumstances, he withdrew the case.

With respect to the charge against Maurice Leslie Thomas for using the title of Dentist, the Registrar reported that in this case he had also appeared on behalf of the Board, while Mr. Arthur appeared for the defendant, who was present. He (Mr. Joske) had relied on the cases of Joske v. Stiggants and Joske v. Lubrano, both as finally disposed of in the High Court of Australia, in urging that there had been a breach of the law and that there should be a conviction. Defendant convicted and fined £1, with £5/15/- costs.

The Registrar's report was received.

Application to Have Name Recorded.—The following application under Section 13 of the Dentists Act 1910 was further considered, viz., D. S. A. Neilson. After careful consideration, the Board decided to refuse the application.

Application for Registration.—William Stanley Wilkinson, L.D.S., B.D.S., applied for registration as a dentist. Application granted.

Annual Examinations.—Final arrangements for the L.D.S. Examinations, commencing 19th November, 1912, were made, and the Registrar authorised to hold them at the University. The arrangements for the *Sine Curriculo* Examination, commencing on the 20th November, were also completed.

A special meeting was held 9th December, 1912; the President (Dr. Springthorpe) in the chair; also present—Mr. Iliffe, Mr. Hall and Dr. Philpots.

Arrangements were made for the conferring of the L.D.S. diplomas at the annual function to be held at the Australian College of Dentistry on the 11th December, 1912.

The following candidates passed the 4th year, viz.:—J. J. Brenan, L. C. Bult, A. C. M. Cox, Miss Z. Craig-Dixson, H. T. S. Donaldson, C. H. Down, G. Finlay, V. S. H. Osment, G. N. Roberts, H. S. Taylor and B. Wilson.

The following candidate passed the "Sine Curriculo" examination, viz.:—C. E. Kingchurch.

Attention was drawn to a case of alleged infringement of the law, and the Registrar was instructed to investigate the matter with power to take immediate action if the allegations were held to be sustained.

Dr. Frank Shanasy made application of the recognition of his degree of D.D.S. of the University of California, U.S.A. Application granted.

The Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference.

To be held in Melbourne from 7th to 14th January, 1913.

The Conference will meet on

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, when visiting delegates are invited to assemble at the College of Pharmacy, Swanston-street, Melbourne, at 12 noon, to enroll their names. At 1 p.m. the delegates will be entertained at lunch. The Conference will open at 2.30 p.m., and the afternoon will be devoted to the general business, which will include The report of the General Secretary and financial statement, The Amendment of The Constitution, and the retiring President's address.

8.30.—Inaugural Meeting and President's address in Wilson Hall.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8. Members of the A.A.A.S. will assemble at the Melbourne University (the Agricultural Chemistry Theatre) at 10 a.m., where Section B (Chemistry), Sub-section Pharmacy, will meet, and sectional papers will be read. Professor C. Fawcitt, D.Sc., President of the Chemistry Section, will deliver his address.

The discussion on the Australasian Pharmaceutical Formulary, and other matters, will be taken at the College, in the afternoon.

In the evening the delegates to the Conference will be entertained at dinner.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9.—The Conference of the Pharmacy Boards will meet at the College of Pharmacy at 11 a.m., and the A.A.A.S. at the Melbourne University at 10 a.m., when a presidential address will be given and sectional papers read.

The social function in the afternoon will be announced in the daily bulletin.

Lecture by Professor Baldwin Spencer, C.M.G., F.R.S., at the Melbourne Town Hall, at 8.30 p.m., on "Northern Australia and its Aborigines."

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10. The delegates to the Conference will meet at the College at 10 a.m. A paper on Pharmaceutical Defence by Mr. Buckhurst.

Chemistry (Section B, Sub-section Pharmacy) will also meet at the University, where sectional papers, etc., will be read.

The afternoon is free.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, JANUARY 11 AND 12, will be devoted to excursions. Details in daily bulletin.

JANUARY 13 AND 14.—Meetings will be held at the College for reading of papers not in the Pharmacy sub-section, and general business.

A conference with delegates from the Victorian branch of the British Medical Association has been arranged, at which "The Spoonful as a Measure for Medicine" and a number of other matters of interest will be discussed.

The function for the evening will be announced in the daily bulletin.

JANUARY 15.—A cricket match at South Melbourne Cricket Ground and a bowling tournament have been arranged. Visitors who are bowlers are invited to send in their names to Mr. John Champion, Bridge-road, Richmond, or Mr. C. J. Gabriel, Victoria-street, Abbotsford.

The following papers have been promised: "Modern Methods of Analytical Control," by J. H. E. Evans, of Liverpool; "Optics for Pharmacists," by Robt. Tocher, Ph.C., B.D.O.A., F.S.M.C.; (title undecided), by G. J. Mackay; "Solutions of Ethyl Nitrite," "Organic Salts of Bismuth with Alkalis," "Stability of Solutions of Hydrocyanic Acid Under Different Degrees of Exposure," and possibly another on 'A Post-diploma Course for Pharmaceutical Chemists in Australia," by R. C. Cowley. "Melting Points of B.P. Ointments," by Messrs. T. E. Turner and J. Wilson.

Those who purpose attending the meeting of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science are invited to send their names and subscriptions (£1) to the local secretary of the State in which they reside. The ticket of membership entitles the holder to attend all meetings and entertainments, and purchase tickets for the excursions. Each member will also receive a copy of the Association's report.

The State railways will issue return tickets at single rates. Further particulars may be obtained from the local secretaries.

Members who have paid their subscriptions are entitled to purchase ladies' ('Associates') tickets at 10s. each. Associates' tickets admit the holders to all the privileges of members, except the right to receive the report.

Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science.

Melbourne Meeting, 1913.

GENERAL PROGRAMME.

Tuesday, 7th January.—

Members assemble in University Union.

10.30.—Sectional Committees meet.

11.30.—First meeting of General Council (Biological Lecture Room).

12.30-2.—Lunch in University Union.

3.30.—Reception at the University by the Patron, His Excellency Sir John Fuller, Bart, G.C.M.G., and the President-Elect, Professor T. W. Edgeworth David, C.M.G., B.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.

8.30.—Inaugural meeting and President's address in Wilson Hall.

Wednesday, 8th January.—

10.—Sectional Committees meet.

10.30-1.—Presidential address in Sections A, C, J, K. Sections meet for reading of papers.

12.30-2.—Lunch in University Union.

3.—Reception at the Town Hall by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Councillor D. V. Hennessy, and the Lady Mayoress.

8.—Visit to the Melbourne Observatory, the Australian Oxygen Co., Fire Brigade Station, City Destructors and Melbourne City Electric Light Station. (Number of visitors limited. See excursions list.)

Thursday, 9th January.—

10.—Sectional Committees meet.
10.30-1.—Presidential address in Sections B, D, G, I. Sections meet for the reading of papers.
12.30-2.—Lunch in University Union.
2-3.30.—Presidential addresses in Sections E, F, H, K (Veterinary Sub-Section). Sections meet for reading of papers.
4-5.30.—Visit to the Botanic Gardens. (See excursions list.)
8.30.—Lecture by Professor Baldwin Spencer, C.M.G., M.A., F.R.S., on "The Northern Territory and its Aborigines," in the Melbourne Town Hall. (Under the patronage of the Commonwealth Government.)

Friday, 10th January.—

10.—Sectional Committees meet.
10.30-1.—Sections meet for the reading of papers.
12.30-2.—Lunch in University Union.
2.—Recommendations Committee (first meeting). (In the Classical Lecture Room.)
2.30.—Second meeting of General Council (Biological Lecture Room).
Afternoon available for visits to Museums. (See excursions list.)
4.6.—Lyceum Club At Home to women members of the Association. Evening free from Association business.

Saturday, 11th January.—

Day excursions will be held as follow:—
Macedon District (Geology, numbers strictly limited). Leader: Professor E. W. Skeats, D.Sc. Motor cars kindly provided by members of the Automobile Club of Victoria. (See excursions list.)
Emerald, Gembrook line (Economic Botany). Leader: Mr. W. Russell Grimwade, B.Sc. (See excursions list.)
Cockatoo Creek, Gembrook line (Botany and Entomology). Leader: Mr. C. French, junr. By invitation of the Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria. (See excursions list.)

Sunday, 12th January.—

Day excursions will be held as follow:—
Bacchus Marsh, Werribee Gorge (Glacial Geology. Numbers strictly limited). Leader: Dr. G. B. Pritchard. Motor cars kindly provided by members of the Automobile Club of Victoria. (See excursions list.)
Beaumaris (Botany and Zoology). Leader: Dr. C. S. Sutton. (See excursions list.)

Monday, 13th January.—

10.—Sectional Committees meet.
10.30-1.—Sections meet for reading of papers. Lunch in University Union. Joint meeting of Sections B and D on "Eucalypts and their Products."
2-4.—Sections meet for reading of papers. Visits to New Reading Room, Public Library; Messrs. Mephan Ferguson and Co.'s Engineering Works; Newport Railway Works. (See excursions list.)

Tuesday, 14th January.—

10.—Sectional Committees meet to consider recommendations.
10.30.—Second meeting of Recommendation Committee. (Classical Lecture Room.)
12.—Final meeting of General Council. (Biological School.)

A Wages Board for Chemists.

A deputation of representatives of Master Pharmacists interviewed Mr. John Murray, Minister for Labour, on the 17th December to protest against the proposal to appoint a Special Board to determine the lowest prices or rates which may be paid to persons employed in dispensing, compounding, or selling drugs or medicines in dispensaries or chemists' shops.

Mr. Murray had agreed to receive the deputation at his office, Spring-street, at 11 a.m., by which hour the following gentlemen had congregated on the Treasury steps:—Messrs. W. London (Bendigo), J. Hislop, C. E. Towl, J. Champion, A. R. Bailey, F. White, W. D. Williams, F. O. O'Bern, G. T. Le Couteur, S. S. Strutt, P. W. Wheeler, F. Barnard, C. J. Gabriel, D. Shaw, C. L. Butchers, F. Buckhurst, F. Lee, F. Longmore, E. L. Fisher, W. J. Cowper, H. Davis, E. G. Owen, A. W. Vale, G. Francis, C. E. Keays, C. G. Imes, G. May, A. L. Jones, and the Hon. R. B. Rees, M.L.C. It was then explained that owing to the Legislative Assembly meeting earlier than usual Mr. Murray had decided to receive the deputation at noon at State Parliament House. The following delegates were selected to proceed to State Parliament House, where the Minister met them in the Committee Room at 1 p.m.:—Messrs. Bailey, Towl, Buckhurst, Butchers, O'Bern, Longmore, Le Couteur, and London.

Mr. Donald McLeod, M.L.A., introduced the deputation. He remarked they desired to enter a protest against the proposed wages board applying to all classes of employees in chemists' shops. It was not that the registered chemists feared the board from a financial aspect. They were in a position to show that registered chemists must be properly qualified to enter the profession. There were connected with the business a large number of men who were not qualified, and who, so long as they were assured of a certain amount of employment, were too lazy or negligent to trouble about enlarging their knowledge. In some Friendly Society Dispensaries, where five or six persons were employed, it sometimes happened that only one man was properly qualified. If the proposed Board were made to apply to this class of assistants the Government would be recognising men who were not qualified, and sooner or later the same question would arise as had cropped up amongst the dentists, some of whom, although they were not thoroughly qualified, urged that they should receive some recognition after so

many years of experience. In the business of the chemist the public could only be properly served by really qualified men. Dispensing was right enough, but compounding and selling, as provided for in the resolution to appoint the Board, could be performed by anybody. Such work did not require a large amount of experience, and if the men so engaged were to be placed on a level with more qualified and experienced assistants, a serious position might be created.

Mr. Longmore: Compounding is a mechanical work.

Mr. McLeod, continuing, said that if "hangers on," so to speak, were to be recognised as being connected with the chemists difficulty was sure to arise. Chemists had to pass certain examinations and had restricted ground upon which to work. Practical chemists were a one-man class and employed very few assistants. Out of the 230 chemists who had joined the Pharmaceutical Defence, there were 25 who employed nobody, 64 employed one assistant, 84 two, 25 three, 12 four, and only 4 who employed five or more persons. These figures were obtained from statistics sent in for insurance purposes, and the details included boys, bottle washers and errand boys. The Minister would see how undesirable it was that the Board should be appointed.

Mr. Buckhurst: Except those engaged in Friendly Society Dispensaries, practically no one has asked for the Board.

Mr. Murray remarked that with a Board consisting of employers employing chemists and employees represented by qualified men the deputation should have nothing to fear.

Mr. Towl said that since they saw the Minister last week the P.D.L. had gone closely into the matter, and they were convinced that the Board was not necessary. There would be no redress for legitimate men, while the provisions of the Board would interfere with the privileges and position of all those who had gone through the courses demanded by law of those qualified to handle medicines. Under a Wages Board unqualified men would be brought into line with qualified. There were men in the business who had no scientific knowledge, and could not take upon themselves the responsibilities which the law demanded.

Mr. Murray: I understand that.

Mr. Towl, continuing, said that in 90 per cent. of cases such men would not be able to prepare a complicated prescription.

Mr. Murray: Where they are not pharmacists they work only in certain classes of prescriptions.

Mr. Towl said that was not so, and if a mistake was made in the preparation, and the patient died, the employer would have to bear the responsibility. If a doctor gave a wrong prescription he was still not liable, the law placing the responsibility on the chemist.

Mr. Murray remarked that he could not understand why that should be so.

Mr. Towl replied that it was so. These were things that many people did not understand. An examination of the income tax statistics showed that over 50 per cent. of the chemists did not pay the tax, and therefore were not earning over £200 a year clear. Wholesale men had stated that qualified chemists' assistants in Victoria were getting from £3 10s. to £4 a week. The average qualified assistant was getting as much as the average man in business on his own account.

Mr. Murray: We understood outside the business that chemists were all making their fortunes. (Laughter.)

Mr. Towl said the business was one in which the returns were small. In Victoria there were not half a dozen doing business with a total turnover of £5000 a year. Indeed, comparatively small suburban grocers did four times the amount.

Mr. Murray said that, seeing that there was an objection, he would not go on with the resolution to appoint the Board. When Mr. Murphy, the Chief Inspector of Factories, drafted the resolution, he understood that there was no objection to the proposal.

Mr. Towl, continuing, said that it had been found that there was no justification for the Board. There were no evils to be remedied. The qualified assistants were getting as much as the employers. To the qualified assistants themselves the danger of the unqualified element was a big one, and if a big wage were suggested it would probably be overruled by the Chairman's casting vote, on the ground that many men could not afford to pay it.

Mr. Murray: Are you afraid that the wages of the unqualified men will be raised or lowered?

Mr. Buckhurst: The qualified men are doubtful as to what will be the effect of the recognition of unqualified men.

Mr. Murray: The lower man will cut in and get the preference if there is only a small difference. If the rates were equalised the unqualified man would be placed on a level with the qualified assistant.

Mr. Towl explained that there were two classes of assistants—those who had responsibilities and those who had not. There were men who had no ability or desire to make a success of a business who could not do anything.

Mr. Murray, in reply, said that he was sorry that he had had to put the deputation to so much inconvenience. He had always been ready to listen to people who were qualified to talk, and he did not want to see any injury done. In view of the very strong objections that had been raised he would not for the present proceed with the resolution to appoint the Board because of the doubtful effects it might have.

A deputation, consisting of Messrs. Albert Andrews, W. H. Ware and S. W. Barclay, were introduced to the Minister of Labour by Mr. A. Rogers, M.L.A., on the 5th December.

Mr. Andrews stated that in many instances the wages paid were far too low, and that in some cases unqualified men were left in charge of shops. While it was permissible for assistants not fully qualified to work under the direction of the chemist keeping the shop, who was qualified, it was questionable, the deputation contended, whether they could legally dispense medicines in the absence of the employer.

Mr. Murray said that he would consider the request. He would consult with the Chief Inspector, and see what could be done. At the same time he would hear what the employers had to say. With regard to assistants not fully qualified

acting in the absence of the qualified employers, he thought that, assuming the statements were correct, such employers took a great deal of risk.

Mr. Rogers urged that the matter should be dealt with without delay. What the deputation asked for was a Wages Board to regulate the pay and conditions of employment of all persons engaged in dispensing medicines or assisting in dispensing medicines.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on 10th December, under the presidency of Mr. A. Wadsworth. There were also present Messrs. W. Short, T. S. Loney, Ll. P. Williams, C. J. Carroll and T. M. Snelson.

Treasurer's Statement Submitted.—Cash in bank, £240 11s. 6d.; in hand, £5 5s.; total, £245 16s. 6d.

Pharmacists Registered.—Christopher Joseph William McHugh, Moore Park; Stanley Nigel Ferguson, Sydney; Frederick William Parkes, Paddington; John Benjamin Spencer, North Sydney (passed final examination); Oswald John Eden, Darling Point; Robert Henderson, Randwick; and William McInnes Nish, Kiama (Chemists and Druggists of Great Britain); John James McDermott, Hurstville (Pharmaceutical Chemist of Queensland); and Robt. Tocher, Summer Hill (Pharmaceutical Chemist of Great Britain). Each was also granted a pharmacist's poisons license.

Indentures Transferred.—Vincent Bath, from F. M. Woods to C. J. Adams, Forbes.

Final Examination.—It was reported that out of the twelve candidates who presented themselves for final examination in November last the following seven passed:—Thomas Sinclair, Ultimo; Christopher Joseph McHugh, Moore Park; John Benjamin Spencer, North Sydney; Francis Edison Barclay, Waverley; Randolph Alexander Matheson, North Sydney; Stanley Nigel Ferguson, Sydney; Frederick William Parkes, Paddington.

Reciprocity With New Zealand.—A letter was received from the Pharmacy Board of New Zealand covering the reciprocal agreement with New South Wales, signed by the Board. It was resolved on the motion of Mr. C. J. Carroll that the agreement be accepted, and that it be signed by the President. It was also agreed that a regulation regarding the same be made and forwarded to the Government for approval.

Lysol.—A letter was received from the Superintendent of Police in regard to the sale of lysol, and suggesting that the matter be referred to the Treasury, with a view to the consideration of the matter by the Pharmacy Board as to whether lysol should not be treated similarly with other (less deadly) poisons. It was decided to reply that the article referred to was already included in the poisons schedule; that the Board had issued repeated warnings with regard to its sale; and suggesting that the Government should communicate with the press on the subject for the purpose of avoiding the publication of the name of the poison used by suicides, it being held that a would-be suicide reading in the daily press the many reports of death from lysol, took it as a means of self-destruction.

Melbourne Conference.—A communication was read from Mr. Shillinglaw, Registrar of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, which said:—"In view of the discussion at the Conference of Pharmacy Boards to be held in January next in regard to the desirability of uniformity in the Poisons Acts of the Commonwealth, I send for your information copies of all of the Acts relating to the sale and custody of poisons in Victoria." The letter was received.

Resignation.—A letter was received from Mr. W. Blackall, resigning his position as a member of the Board. The resignation was received with regret, and Mr. Blackall is to be thanked for services rendered.

College of Pharmacy.—The President reported the result of a conference held with Professor Anderson Stuart, with regard to lectures at the University for pharmaceutical students. It was decided to send the Professor a letter embodying the views of the Board on the subject of pharmaceutical education in New South Wales, which the Board considered to be in an unsatisfactory condition. It will be pointed out that since the passing of the Pharmacy Act students in pharmacy were compelled to attend University courses in chemistry, botany and materia medica, but of tuition in practical pharmacy there was none. New South Wales is the only important State in the Empire without a recognised School or College of Pharmacy, and in emphasising the necessity for a change in this respect it is to be mentioned that the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has by an alteration in its Act, received power to accept certificates of registration of Colonial Pharmacy Boards. But whereas the certificates from the Pharmacy Boards of Victoria and Queensland have been recognised and accepted, those of New South Wales have not. It is, therefore, surmised that the want of a School of Pharmacy is the cause, and the Board suggests that a Director of Pharmacy be engaged whose duty should consist in supervising the education of pharmaceutical students, lecturing in practical pharmacy and dispensing, and generally arranging the courses of lectures in other subjects so as to enable the student to make the best use of his time. Should the Senate favourably consider the matter the Board further suggests that a director be advertised for in the pharmaceutical journals in Australia and Great Britain, and is strongly of opinion that he should be a man who has had practical experience in pharmacy, some experience in teaching, and a member of a recognised Pharmaceutical Society. It is also to be suggested that in the selection of a director the Committee dealing with the matter should be composed of an equal number of members of the Senate and Board.

Melbourne Conference Delegates.—Messrs. A. Wadsworth (President), W. Short, C. J. Carroll, and Ll. P. Williams were appointed delegates to represent the Board at the forthcoming Pharmaceutical Conference in Melbourne.

The Registrar's Salary.—On the motion of Mr. Loney, seconded by Mr. W. Short, it was resolved to increase the salary of the Registrar (Mr. A. Forster) by £50 a year, as from 1st December last. Mr. Forster's services were eulogistically referred to by members, and a unanimous decision was arrived at.

Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held on 10th December. Present: Messrs. A. Wadsworth (President), Ll. P. Williams, W. Short, C. J. Carroll, T. S. Loney, T. M. Snelson, and F. Gray.

Sale of Opium.—A letter was received from the Comptroller-General of Customs with particulars of procedure for retail dealers in opium, with a view to obtaining the opinion of importers of the drug; also enclosing a copy of the regulation designed to check the sale of opium. The regulation, which is the final result of the correspondence on the subject between the Council and the Customs authorities, is as follows:—"With reference to the Comptroller-General's Order No. 1605, of the 4th inst., the Comptroller-General has now directed that such order is cancelled, and that the licensed importers of opium must obtain from retail purchasers of opium on and after 1st January next, an undertaking that no opium or opium preparation as specified in G.O. 947 (c) list 1, will be issued for other than medicinal purposes, or will be sold under circumstances indicating the possibility of use for smoking opium. An undertaking when once furnished by a purchaser will be held to cover all his subsequent transactions." The Secretary was instructed to reply that the Council is in thorough accord with the regulation, which is a good one, and to convey to the collector the thanks of the Council for his courtesy in the matter.

Resignation.—Mr. W. Blackall wrote resigning his position as a Councillor of the Society. The resignation was received with general regret, and expressions of appreciation of services given in the cause of pharmacy, which fell from members present, are to be conveyed to Mr. Blackall by special letter.

Treasurer's Statement Submitted.—Cash in bank, £27 15s. 4d.; in hand, £2 2s.; in Savings Bank, £514 4s. 2d.; Defence Fund, £100; total, £644 1s. 6d. Benevolent Fund, £39 19s. 8d.

Election of Member.—Mr. A. C. Dash, of Coogee, was elected a member of the Society.

Early Closing Act Amendment Bill.—The President announced that final consideration had not been given to the measure in the Legislative Council, when the session closed, so that the whole matter still remained in abeyance.

Melbourne Conference. — The question of appointing delegates to the Pharmaceutical Conference, to be held at Melbourne in January next, was discussed, and Mr. F. P. J. Gray was appointed. It was understood that in addition as many other members of the Society as possible making the trip should also represent the Society. The Secretary was also instructed to proceed to Melbourne for the same purpose.

The Secretary (Mr. A. Forster) tabled the programme of the Conference, which has been received from Melbourne.

Proprietary Articles.—Action has been taken by the Council of the Sydney Chamber of Commerce, following the recommendation of the Proprietary Articles Sectional Committee, in respect to a Western Australian health regulation. The Department of Public Health in the Western State recently issued a regulation to the effect that there should be written in the principal label attached to any package containing any article of food (for infants or invalids) or proprietary medicines, a statement of the names and proportions of the ingredients contained in it. The Sectional Committee strongly protested against this regulation, which it declared called for the publication of the formula of such goods. The Council warmly supported the Committee's recommendation, and has decided to send its protest to the West Australian Minister controlling the Department, and to ask the Perth and Fremantle Chambers of Commerce to support the protest, and place it before the Minister. The various Chambers of Commerce in the other States are to be advised of the course taken by the Sydney Chamber, and will be asked to co-operate. The objection to the West Australian enactment is that it is contrary to the principle of the Act which governs food and drug standards.

Early Closing of Chemists' Shops.—The Bill which has been drafted to amend the Early Closing Act, failed to reach its final stage in the Legislative Council, where it was introduced, when the session ended. Consequently matters at present remain as they were before the suggested alterations in the law were considered. Several of its provisions affect chemists in their dealings with the public, and if carried as drafted would have involved great hardships and inconveniences. The movement to secure a 6 p.m. closing hour for all chemists' shops and public and private dispensaries did not meet with the success that was anticipated by those behind it, for when the matter was discussed it was admitted that the hour should be extended, and a decision was arrived at, somewhat in the shape of a compromise, to fix the hour at 7.30 p.m. Even the later hour is not accepted by a large section of master pharmacists as altogether reasonable, but that is not the feature of the Bill that would work most disastrously to the public, whose convenience should be studied. The question of urgency was one of importance, and though it received consideration there remains in the measure a proviso that no assistant shall be employed after closing hours in any chemist's shop. Such a provision must have a far-reaching effect, as it means the absolute closing of all shops controlled by corporate bodies, and all friendly societies and hospital dispensaries. Everyone engaged in each is an employee, and as no employee can be engaged in work after the hours of closing, it simply means that the doors of such establishments must

close at the closing hours determined upon, and not be opened again until the following day.

The view taken by master pharmacists generally is best expressed by Mr. Andrew Wadsworth, the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, and the official mouthpiece of the profession. Writing on the subject to the "Sydney Morning Herald," on 3rd December last, he says:—

"Sir,—Once more I ask you to let the following matter appear in your columns. I write to you as the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, as Chairman of the meetings of the master pharmacists of Sydney and suburbs, and as the advocate on the part of the master pharmacists of New South Wales before the wages board for pharmacists. Holding these offices, I claim that I am justly entitled to say that I represent the vast majority of master pharmacists of New South Wales.

The Early Closing Bill as it stands now, having been sent up to the Legislative Council, provides as follows:—

1. Chemists' shops, private and public dispensaries in the metropolitan area and Newcastle must be closed at 7.30 on four days, at 9 on one day, and at 1 on one day. Country chemists' shops and dispensaries must close at 9 p.m. (section 13).

2. No shop assistant shall be employed in any shop mentioned in schedule 2 (chemists' shops, public and private dispensaries) after closing hours (section 18).

3. Registered pharmacists may supply after closing hours any drug, patent or proprietary medicine, or surgical appliance that is shown to be urgently required either by a prescription so endorsed by a legally-qualified medical practitioner or by declaration to that effect in the prescribed form made by the applicant or purchaser section 16 (1, second proviso.

4. It is an offence if the chemist's shop is not closed, or kept closed, except for the purpose of ventilation or for visitors calling for purposes other than trade—section 16 (3).

The clause that no shop assistant shall be employed by us after closing hours is so directly opposed to the interest of the public that even at this late hour it should be altered. It means that no assistant in a public or private dispensary (mentioned in the second schedule) shall be employed after closing time. Therefore no medicines can be supplied in any public or private dispensary by the dispensers who are assistants. In case of sickness of the owner of the chemist's shop, his assistant is not allowed to supply the public with necessary medicine after closing hour. It is supposed that this Bill is made to enable the chemist to get away from work at certain hours, but the result will be exactly the contrary. The owner who has made contracts with lodges, etc., etc., to supply medicine at any time will be compelled to be in the shop from 7.30 p.m. to opening time the following morning, as it is an offence if he allows his assistant to help him in that work after closing time. The question arises, further, whether or not even he personally will be allowed to supply medicine after hours without keeping his shop open in contravention of section 16 (3), which makes it an offence if the shop is not closed after hours, except for ventilation, or visitors who call for purposes other than trade. A person who wants medicine after closing hours goes to the chemist to buy, that is for trade.

The exemption allowing registered pharmacists to supply drugs, etc., after closing hours is certainly a right clause, but it is hampered by the proviso that the applicant must either sign a declaration that the article is urgently required, or he must bring a doctor's prescription so endorsed by a doctor. It is difficult to understand the reason of this proviso. No person will go to a chemist in the middle of the night by buy medicine for the pleasure of shopping. The fact that a medicine is required after hours, and is asked for, should be perfectly sufficient to allow the chemist to supply the goods. The scope of the supply is well defined, namely, drugs, patent and proprietary medicines, and surgical appliances. That meets the case absolutely. The chemist cannot sell groceries, furniture, meat, clothing, ironmongery, etc., after hours. And even if there are one or two scalpers, as the Minister says, who are after a few coppers, what does it matter? The whole public should not be penalised for the misdeeds of one or two scalpers, who will be known very soon, and who should be made an example of. The statement of the Hon. Minister that the chemist will take the risk of supplying medicine after hours in case the applicant is unable to sign or produce the required papers from some reason or other, is just that loophole for which a scalper would most likely be looking. We ask that we keep the right to supply any sufferer with necessary medicine under all circumstances without written authority. We do not want to refuse to supply necessary medicine at any time, even to an applicant who is incapable to sign or give doctor's prescription, but at the same time we must decline to be made law-breakers by helping the sufferer.

I cannot admit that urgent cases after closing time are few. I will once more refer to the statements made by the Sydney United Friendly Societies' Dispensary and the combined other metropolitan friendly societies' dispensaries, which show just the contrary. A prominent city chemist has assured me that he is prepared to prove that within the last 11 months he has supplied medicine and surgical appliances to more than 29,000 people between the hours of 9.30 p.m. and 7 a.m. I will grant that these 29,000 cases may not all have been entirely urgent, but it is a thousand times better that these people be supplied than that one person should be left to suffer and die because the Act forbids the chemist to supply the necessary medicine except under impossible circumstances. It is far better that chemists' shops and all dispensaries be exempted from this Bill than that the business be hampered by impossible conditions."

Notes—Personal and Trade:

Mr. A. Wadsworth, President of the Pharmacy Board and Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, will attend the Pharmaceutical Conference

to be held in Melbourne in January next. He attends not only in the capacity of retiring President of the Conference, but as a direct delegate of the Pharmacy Board.

Mr. V. Forster's services as Registrar of the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales, and as Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of this State, have been recognised in a practical manner. At its last meeting the Board, as a mark of its appreciation of Mr. Forster's energy and ability in furthering the interests of the Board, decided to increase his salary, but the eulogistic references made to the manner in which that gentleman has performed his duties since 1896 are perhaps the most valuable testimony to the efficiency of a trusted officer and wise counsellor.

Mr. W. Blackall, who for a period of about 40 years has carried on a pharmacy at Newcastle, recently disposed of his business to Messrs. Donald and Cobley. It is Mr. Blackall's intention in future to devote himself entirely to dentistry in the same premises with which he has been so long identified. In consequence of his decision he has resigned his positions as a member of the Pharmacy Board and as a Councillor of the Pharmaceutical Society. His loss to pharmacy is a gain to dentistry.

At a recent meeting the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales considered the question whether it was desirable or not, in view of industrial disputes, to join any other organisation of employers, such as the Employers' Federation or the Master Retailers' Association. It was decided to get a legal opinion on the subject.

Registered Under Firms Act.—Castles Manufacturing Co., importers and manufacturing chemists, 377 Sussex-street, Sydney (proprietor, Ernest Major), has been registered under the Firms Act. Renwick Manufacturing Co., Renwick-lane, Leichhardt (proprietor, Edward Chas. Ginn), disinfectant manufacturers, has also been registered.

Allen and Hanbury.—Mr. Moors, having completed a successful trip to South Australia, has now gone to West Australia; and Mr. McGrath, who recently has been representing the firm in Queensland, will shortly return to Sydney.

MARKET REPORT.

Business has maintained a good level during the month, and notwithstanding the alleged financial stringency there has been a good turnover in Christmas and New Year goods.

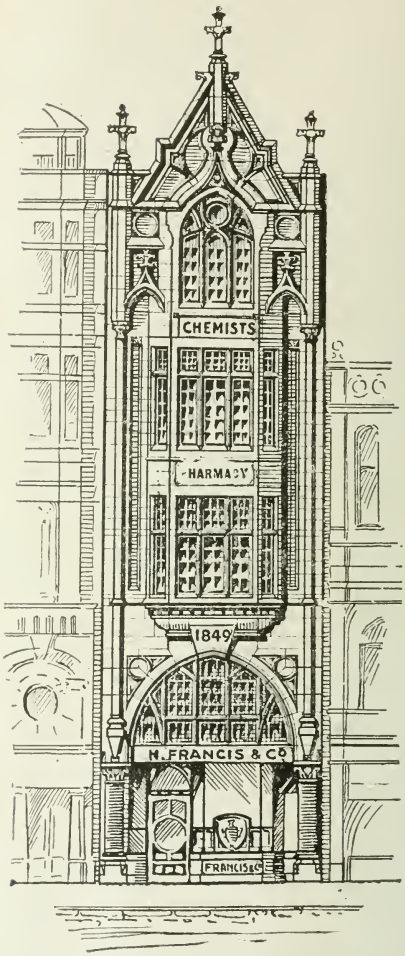
Paris Green has experienced an abnormal demand during the month owing to the Agricultural Department recommending it for destroying a certain grub. Stocks at one time were quite depleted in Melbourne.

Olive Oil has taken a turn upwards.

Arsenic has further advanced since our last report.

Phenacetin has experienced a 10 per cent. rise.

Menthol, Morphine and Oil of Cloves are, according to recent cable advices, still maintaining a high price.



The new Pharmacy for Messrs. H. Francis and Co., is now being erected on the same site No. 280 Bourke Street, as that of the first shop established by this firm, in Melbourne, in 1849. The new building is of ferro-concrete throughout, this modern system of construction being selected as owing to the narrow frontage the ordinary thickness of brick walls would have absorbed too much of the room space. In the new building the concrete walls are only six inches in thickness, and there is not a brick, or steel girder, or flooring board in any part of the structure. The floors, beams and walls are all constructed in re-inforced cement concrete on the Monier system.

There are five storeys and a basement. The Ground Floor with its mezzanine gallery will give ample scope for the display and sale of the varied goods of a modern chemist's establishment. At the rear of the shop is the dispensary department, which will be equipped on modern lines throughout. The basement and first floor will be devoted to the purposes of the surgical implements, appliances, and general hospital material, and both will be approached direct from the shop floor by easy graded staircases. The elevation has been designed in mediæval Gothic style, treated in an eclectic spirit, in order to suit modern requirements, and will present a unique feature in Melbourne street architecture. A Gothic treatment was suggested by the architect as being peculiarly suitable for a pharmacy, owing to its association with the calling of the alchymist whose laboratory was a striking feature in the old streets of mediæval days. The shop entrance on Bourke-street will present a very attractive front with its tall pointed arch, flanked by colums of Labradorite and Apollo Bay stone, and its centre feature of plate glass mirrors and marble show cases. The building is being erected from the designs and under the supervision of Mr. Nahum Barnet, architect The contractors are Messrs. C. O. Luff and Son.

LEGAL.

The Pure Foods Act : Important Decision —In the Geelong General Sessions on the 10th December, before Judge Box, John Whitfield appealed against a fine of £30 imposed upon him at the police court for a breach of the Pure Foods Act, in selling pills falsely described. The respondent was Charles Llewellyn Rees, an officer of the Board of Health. Mr. P. J. Ridgeway appeared for the appellant, and Mr. J. P. McCabe Doyle for the respondent.

In outlining the case, Mr. Doyle said he intended to prove that the defendant was associated with the Vis Vitae Herbal Remedy Co., trading in Geelong. Defendant, who had been convicted of an offence under the Pure Foods Act, on July 14th, 1909, was proceeded against at the police court on July 27th last, with selling certain compounds, to wit, pills described as a herbal remedy, and alleged to contain no minerals or drugs contrary to section 35 of the Pure Foods Act. In point of fact, the pills contained certain minerals. So far as the registration was concerned, the defendant did not appear to have any interest whatever in the business. Father and son had been partners, but John Whitfield, senr., lodged a declaration that the defendant had left the firm, and was no longer connected with it. He proposed to prove that John Whitfield, the defendant, had taken a lease of the property, where the business was conducted, and had engaged stenographers and others.

Mr. Ridgeway stated that he did not intend to raise this point.

C. L. Rees, inspector of the Public Health Department, stated that he wrote to the manager of the Vis Vitae Herbal Co. in Geelong on June 22nd last. He asked for particulars of his cure for rheumatism, and gave his name and address as C. Morgan, Oxford Chambers, Melbourne. He received a reply on June 28th, with sample packets of the remedy that was alleged to have cured hundreds of cases deemed hopeless. It was stated that the cost for the full course of the treatment would be £3, and that it was not sold by any chemists or druggists. He replied on July 8th, stating that £3 was a big sum to pay down, and he was not a wealthy man; he understood the remedy was herbal, and he would be influenced in using it on that account. On July 12th defendant replied that the remedy contained no minerals or drugs, and was a herbal cure that would not harm the most delicate constitution. On the 25th of that month he wrote stating that he had decided to try the rheumatism cure, and asked him to send it by registered post. He emphasised that he wanted the purely herbal remedy; he sent postal notes and kept a record of the numbers. Later he received the pills, the defendant stating that the joys of perfect health were worth striving after. On July 26th he wrote the defendant reminding him that he had sent £3, and asking for the return of £2, as he had stipulated to give him a course of treatment for £1. He never received the £2. With Inspector Hodge he called at the defendant's place in Aberdeen-street, and said the box of pills produced had reached him at Oxford Chambers, Melbourne, and he purposed opening it in his presence in order to divide the contents for analysis. Defendant called in Mr. Crowle. The box was opened, and the contents were divided. He gave a portion to the Government Analyst.

Arthur Burrows, senior telegraphist at the Geelong Post Office, stated that on 25th July a registered letter came from C. Morgan addressed to the Vis Vitae Herbal Co. and J. J. Whitfield, the appellant, signed for it. He produced a receipt for a registered packet sent by the appellant in July to C. Morgan, Melbourne. The postal notes produced for £3 were presented for payment by the Bank of Australasia.

George Lionel Daniel, clerk in the Bank of Australasia, stated that there was no account at the bank in the name of the Vis Vitae Herbal Co., but there was one in the name of John James Whitfield. The postal notes produced were paid into his account by the appellant on July 27th.

Charles A. E. Price, acting Government Analyst, stated that on July 30th last Inspector Rees handed him a packet containing 175 brown-coated pills. The average weight was 5 1-3rd grains, and with the coating removed 4 grains. The analysis showed the composition of the pill to contain approximately 2 grains of rhubarb, 8-10th of a grain of sulphur, 1-3rd of a grain of cream of tartar, and ½ a grain of guaiacum resin.

To Mr. Ridgeway: He was not going to say that cream of tartar was a metal: it was not a mineral. It was produced from wine, and was inorganic. It was supposed that sulphur came from the bowels of the earth. He regarded it as a mineral, and a non-metallic substance.

This closed the respondent's case.

Mr. Ridgeway contended there was no case to answer. The definition of an article of food did not contemplate articles of food in combination. There was legislation in existence dealing with drugs.

Mr. Doyle answered that the Legislature might have made the meaning more explicit, but any other article and substance included a drug. Should not that meaning be put into the words? That was the ordinary plain interpretation, and he would ask His Honor to interpret it that way. The Pure Foods Act dealt with drugs as well as pure foods.

Judge Box: I never knew pills to be eatable. My experience is that they are taken as quickly as possible. What about castor oil?

Mr. Doyle: A very useful and effective article of food at times.

Mr. Ridgeway: Defendant never suggested that the pills were an article of food. Drugs had a clearly defined meaning, and the Legislature would have said so if it meant that they should be included in the section. He thought the appeal should be allowed. There was no evidence that sulphur or cream of tartar was a mineral.

His Honor, in summing up, referred to the ambiguity of the section, and said the Legislature had not made the meaning clear. He could not see it was intended that a drug should be included in the words "or other article or substance or compound." If the Legislature had intended to interfere with food and drugs it would have said so. He could not think that it was intended to include drugs in the section. If the Legislature had intended it, then it had not made its meaning clear. The words must be taken with the whole of the Act. He could not see that the respondent had established the point. He would allow the appeal, and quash the conviction.

Mr. Ridgeway asked for £15 15s. costs, and thought his client should not be penalised.

His Honor refused to allow costs.

Mr. Doyle asked if His Honor would state a case on the law point.

His Honor refused, but said the Crown had a remedy if it wished.

Mr. Doyle: I am only asking to safeguard myself. I have no instructions.

Early Closing—Chemist's Prosecuted.—At the Collingwood Court on December 17th, Nicholas White, chemist, 286 Smith-street, was charged with having failed to close his shop from the hour of eight o'clock on the evening of Wednesday, November 13th. George T. E. Collopy, inspector of shops and factories, stated that at 8.40 on the night referred to he saw several people entering White's shop. White, who said that he did not think he was offending if he kept his shop door shut, admitted a prior conviction for a similar offence, and was fined £2, with 10s. 6d. costs. V. M. Cattach, chemist, 72 Johnston-street, who admitted that he had not closed his shop until 8.25 p.m. on November 13th, said that it was through ignorance. A fine of 5s., with 10s. 6d. costs, was imposed.

TRADE MARK APPLICATIONS.

THE COMMONWEALTH REGISTRAR OF TRADE MARKS has accepted the following applications for registration during the month. Objections to the registration of any of these must be lodged within three months of the date of their publication in the official journal:—

ZE-DOC.—The word "Ze-doc." Ointment or salve for human use. Samuel Heath Blake, 151 Clarence-street, Sydney.

EUCAMINT.—The word "Eucamint." Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. Sander and Sons, 160 Bridge-street, Bendigo.

AMENTHIC. — Invented word "Amenthic." Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. Sayers Allport Propy. Ltd., 53 and 55 Macquarie-street, Sydney.

CARLSPA.—The invented word "Carlspa." Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. Sayers Allport Propy. Ltd., 53 and 55 Macquarie-street, Sydney.

FIR-TREE.—The word "Fir-tree." Chemical substances used for agricultural, horticultural, veterinary and sanitary purposes. E. Griffiths Hughes Ltd., 68 Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

GROTAN.—The invented word "Grotan." Disinfectants and antiseptics. Schulke and Maye, Hamburg.

ANANTIS.—The word "Anantis." A healing ointment. John Urquhart, Wentworth Avenue, Canterbury.

RHEUALL.—The word "Rheuall." Medicinal preparations for human use. W. J. Allchin, Doveton-street W., Ballarat.

WONDER.—Distinctive signature. Cattle medicines. F. A. Brown, trading as The Wonder Ointment Co., Willung South, Victoria.

NOTES—NEWS, TRADE, ETC.

THE Wholesale Houses have, by agreement, decided to abolish the practice of giving Christmas boxes to customers and others, thus following the decision of other wholesale traders who, during recent years, have found that what was once a time-honoured custom has grown to such proportions and was being subjected to such abuse that it became imperative to take steps to abolish it altogether.

MESSRS. DUERDIN AND SAINSBURY have received a new shipment of silver manicure sets and dressing cases, also a wide range of Atkinson's and Mulhin's perfumes. Amongst the new goods is the Killarney Lily perfume, in cut glass bottles, assorted sizes. A new supply of "Auto" finger stalls and "Dainty" wristlets has come to hand. Messrs. D. and S. have issued a very neat and artistic calendar for 1913.

Mr. J. M. Couve has opened a branch pharmacy in Lang Lang, which will be under the supervision of Mr. M. A. Walter, late of Messrs. H. Francis and Co., Bourke-street.

Messrs. Rocke, Tompsitt and Co. have placed on the market De Leon's bath crystals, in three sizes, assorted odours. The Rasur-Sprigel shaving mirror and stand is a new collapsible extension mirror, with shaving bowl and brush. It is very portable, and folds up into a small compass. A new shipment of Hinde's metallic hair brushes has just come to hand, as well as a large assortment of sponge bags, containing one, two or three pockets, and a choice variety of bathing and surf caps. "Amberose" perfume, each in a casket, extra large size, is daintily put up, and is suitable for presentation purposes. The "Luxus" eyebrow pencil, in unique metal case, enclosed in leatherette purse; "Elektra" rouge crayon, in sliding metal case; and Claire's Lip Salve, also in neat metal container, are three attractive lines, which, when this class of goods is in demand, should meet with a ready sale.

Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co. have received a new Dental Plate Outfit, for thoroughly cleaning artificial teeth. Each outfit contains a dental soap, hard plate brush and a special spiral brush for gold bands. Another new line is the "Meritor" hairbrush, which is washable and uninflammable, and is a good brush at a moderate price. Diuretic Xephritin Tablets are now being ordered by the medical profession. Supplies of these have been received. A new lot of celluloid eye shades, each in a box, has come to hand, also a fine assortment of hold-alls, with separate compartments for sponge, soap, toothbrush, etc. Messrs. F., G. and Co. are just opening up an assorted range of pump sprays, including several new designs, silver-top smelling bottles, etc., as well as a variety of the best class of French shaving brushes.

Tabloid Epinine Compound. — Tabloid Epinine Compound, recently put on the market by Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., contains gr. 1/1000 of "Epinine (the synthetic substance with adrenine-like action discovered by this firm) in combination with suitable small doses of Heroin Hydrochloride, Ipecacuahana, Benzoic Acid and Oil of Gaultheria. It is intended to be sucked so as to secure the local application of these drugs to the mucous membranes of the throat. The product is made with a demulcent base and dissolves slowly in the mouth, thus ensuring prolonged contact of the medicaments with the affected parts. The vaso-constrictor and astringent action of "Epinine" and the sedative, expectorant and antiseptic effects of the other constituents make the product a very useful one for congested and irritated conditions of the pharynx and larynx. It should prove particularly valuable to singers and public speakers. The taste is agreeable, and the quantity of each ingredient is such as to allow of frequent repitition of the dose. "Epinine" Compound is supplied in bottles of 25 and 100.

PERSONAL.

Mr. Leo. Sutcliffe has gone to the Geelong U.F.S. Dispensary, as assistant.

Mr. Cyril A. Delaney is at present acting as dispenser at the Ballarat Hospital.

Mr. C. Field is managing Mr. F. W. Hardy's business at Clifton Hill.

Mr. D. G. Patchell has gone to Mr. Arthur Edwards, St. Kilda, as assistant.

The death of Mr. J. L. Griffiths, who for many years, was an assistant with Mr. C. E. Keays, is reported.

Mr. F. Cathcart is at present assisting Mr. F. S. Kendall, Dunolly. He afterwards relieves Mr. C. Hembrow, Beechworth.

Mr. Luther Scammell, of Messrs. F. H. Faulding and Co., Adelaide, paid a visit to Melbourne during the month.

Mr. Percy F. Elliott, a new arrival from England, has accepted an appointment with Mr. T. A. C. Sayle, Windsor.

Mr. J. B. Kissoll, who recently came out from London, has accepted a position with Mr. O. J. Lawson, Fitzroy.

Mr. A. L. Craven has been relieving Mr. W. A. Gordon, Nagambie, and Mr. J. J. Carroll, Beaufort, during the month.

Mr. W. Darby has been acting as *locum tenens* for Mr. W. F. B. Gough, Daylesford, for a few days.

Mr. J. J. Carroll, late of Beaufort, has secured an appointment as manager of Mr. J. H. Kilgour's pharmacy at Rutherglen.

Mr. A. W. Madge is relieving Mr. A. R. Bailey, Malvern, during the Christmas holidays. He has afterwards arranged to go to Mr. R. P. Hynes, Colac.

Mr. L. C. B. Fuedseth, pharmaceutical chemist, of Dunedin, has been on a visit to Victoria, and paid a visit of inspection to the College of Pharmacy.

Mr. R. D. Holmes, assistant manager, of Messrs. Parke, Davis and Co., Sydney branch, who has been on a six-months' trip to Europe and America, returned by the s.s. "Marama" on the 24th November.

Country Chemists in Town.—Messrs. W. A. London, Bendigo; W. H. Cornell, Ballarat; A. L. Peters, Bendigo; P. J. Mulhall, Seymour; J. J. Carroll, Beaufort; F. S. Kendall, Dunolly; M. Nugent, Elmore; Pierce Butler, Bendigo; W. F. B. Gough, Daylesford; W. L. Williams, Bendigo; A. E. Sayer, Bendigo; D. A. Simpson, Loch; and H. O. Wilkinson, Warrnambool.

Mr. W. H. Fleay, Ballarat, was, at a special meeting of the Ballarat Chemists' Association held on December 16, nominated as a candidate to represent the country districts at the forthcoming Pharmacy Board election. Mr. Fleay said he would, if elected, do his best in the interests of pharmacists. It was resolved that the P.D.L. be asked to endorse Mr. Fleay's nomination.

COUNTRY BUSINESS — Gippsland, Main Railway line, turnover £1000, showing excellent profits. Stock, fittings, and book debts valued at £700, rent £40 per year. Price, £1000. No. 609, c/o Duerdin and Sainsbury, Melbourne.

COUNTRY BUSINESS—Centre wheat-growing district, doing £600 per year. Stock, fittings, and book debts, £325. Owner desires to sell property also or rent at 22s. 6d. per week. Further particulars on application. No. 636, c/o Duerdin and Sainsbury, Melbourne.

GOOD DISPENSING BUSINESS (City) for Sale, £1700 a year, and capable of large improvement. SAYERS, ALLPORT Prop. Ltd. 55 Macquarie Street, SYDNEY.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

ALL SYDNEY PHARMACISTS desirous of joining a CLASS on OPTICS are requested to communicate with the Secretary.

A. FORSTER,
Secretary.

Richmond Terrace, Domain, Sydney.

PHARMACY BOARD OF VICTORIA.

MEDICAL ACT 1890. PART III.

Whereas under the provisions of the Medical Act 1890, Part 3, and of the regulations made thereunder, I, the undersigned, Samuel Baird, was appointed to be the Returning Officer, and to conduct the Elections of Members of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria; and whereas the offices of the persons elected Members of the said Pharmacy Board on the 9th February, 1910, have become vacant by effluxion of time; and whereas under the provisions of the said Medical Act 1890, and of the regulations made thereunder, the Returning Officer shall, in the month of February, in the year 1913, proceed to the ELECTION of THREE PERSONS being registered Pharmaceutical Chemists of Victoria, to serve as members of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

Notice is hereby given that I will, on the 11th day of February, 1913, proceed to the Election of Three Persons, being Registered Pharmaceutical Chemists, to serve as members of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria; and also that, if the number of persons nominated is greater than the number of persons required to fill the vacancies created as aforesaid, a POLL will be TAKEN on the 11th day of February, 1913.

Nomination papers must be lodged or delivered by post at the office of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, College of Pharmacy, Swanston-street, Melbourne, before four o'clock in the afternoon of the 29th day of January, 1913

Dated this 13th day of December, 1912.

SAMUEL BAIRD, Returning Officer.

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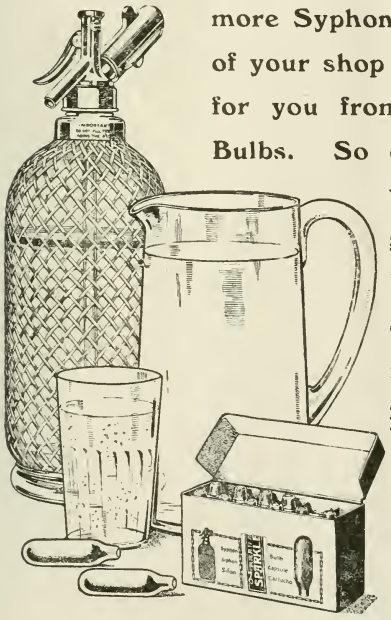
Build up a SPARKLET Trade in your District.

DON'T be CONTENT to SELL BULBS ONLY

There is good steady trade in bulbs, certainly, and no trouble, but the way to increase that trade is to sell more Syphons. Every Syphon that goes out of your shop is a salesman. It starts working for you from that minute—selling Sparklet Bulbs. So order up some when the hot weather comes along—make a good show of them—and you will build up a bulb trade in your district which will go on bringing in good money for years.



N.B.—Ask your wholesaler about our Free Syphon Offer—one extra free of charge with every dozen ordered.

READ & CAMPBELL, Sole Importers, 40 Pitt St., Sydney

KEROL The Guaranteed Disinfectant.

KEROL is non-poisonous, is non-toxic and non-corrosive, and contains no carbolic or cresylic acid.

The manufacture of **KEROL** is bacteriologically controlled.

KEROL forms a homogeneous and permanent emulsion.

KEROL'S high efficiency is not destroyed by the presence of organic matter.

KEROL as a bactericide is 10 to 35 times as active as carbolic acid.

READ THE FOLLOWING:

"Report upon the Carbolic Acid Co-efficient for Bacillus Typhosus of the **KEROL** in the drum marked for identification." The test was performed with a culture of B. Typhosus, which gave well-marked widal reactions with cases of Typhoid Fever.

$$\text{CARBOLIC ACID CO-EFFICIENT} \frac{1400}{100} = 14$$

The co-efficient for Bacillus Typhosus is 14, or, in other words, so far as these tests show, this **KEROL** is 14 time as powerful a germicide for Bacillus Typhosus as Carbolic Acid is.

(Signed) T. P. ANDERSON STUART, M.D., LL.D.
(Signed) HENRY G. CHAPMAN, M.D.

University of Sydney, December 14th, 1908.

A 1/3 Bottle makes 20 Gallons of efficient Disinfectant.

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TRIAL CASES, spherical, 50/-, with instructions.

Office Cases, complete with cylindrical lenses, from £4 5/- Handsome Mahogany Case containing 24 pairs each convex and concave spherical, 12 pairs each convex and concave cylinder lenses, prisms, and discs, mounted in nickel and gilt rings, £6 15/-. This is **SPECIAL VALUE,** types included. A large assortment to choose from, including roll top and travelling patterns.

RETINISCOPES, OPHTHALMASCOPES, and all testing appliances.

Ths **NEW KERATOMETER.** Latest and cheapest instrument for corneal astigmatic correction. Write for particulars and price—we are the agents.

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The 'Allenburys' Throat Pastilles

SOFT, DEMULCENT, PALATABLE.

In the medical treatment of most Throat Affections a simple & effective method of local application is a necessity.

The exigencies of modern practice demand the employment of a large variety of drugs in a soothing and demulcent form.

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The following Pastilles are largely used, and have been found from long practical experience to be very efficacious:

No. 9. MENTHOL, COCAINE AND RED GUM.
Menthol, gr. 1/20th. Cocaine, gr. 1/20th. Red Gum, 2 grs.

No. 23. EUCALYPTUS AND RED GUM.
Eucalyptus, ½ minim of the Oil. Red Gum, gr. 1.

No. 28. COMPOUND GUAIACUM.
Guaiacum, gr. 1. Chlorate of Potash, grs. 2. Red Gum, gr. ½.

No. 29. COMPOUND RHATANY.
Extract of Rhatany, grs. 2. Cocaine Hydrochlor., gr. 1/20th.

No. 38. CHLORATE OF POTASH, BORAX AND COCAINE.
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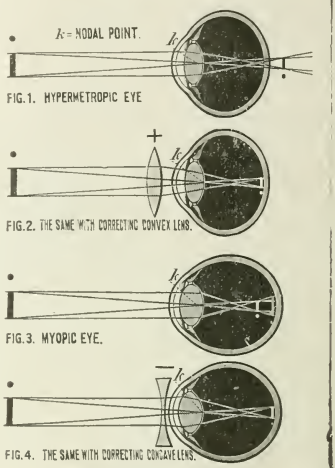
K= NODAL POINT.
FIG. 1. HYPERMETROPIC EYE
FIG. 2. THE SAME WITH CORRECTING CONVEX LENS.
FIG. 3. MYOPIC EYE.
FIG. 4. THE SAME WITH CORRECTING CONCAVE LENS.
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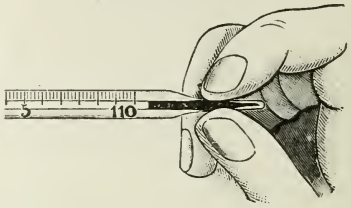

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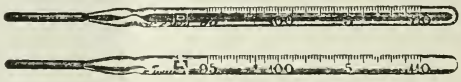

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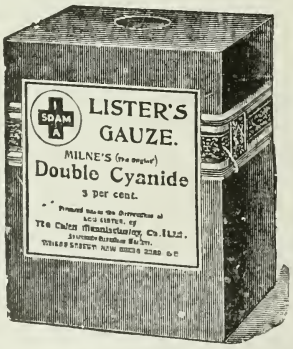

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Pharmacy Board Notices.

MEDICAL ACT 1890, PART III.

THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

AS required by Section 88, Sub-section 4 of the "Medical Act 1890," Part III., is held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, Swanston Street, Melbourne, in MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER.

Next Examination: MONDAY and TUESDAY, 3rd and 4th MARCH, 1913.

The following are the compulsory subjects:—

LATIN.—Grammar; translation of simple sentences from English into Latin, translation into English of two paragraphs from Cæsar—De Bello Gallico, Book I., or two from Virgil—Æneid, Book I. *In each examination paper two passages from both of the authors will be given, but a candidate will be required to translate only two passages from Cæsar or two from Virgil.*

ENGLISH.—Grammar and composition. The University Text Book in English.

The Text Book for September and December, 1912, and March and June, 1913, will be:—"*A Victorian Anthology for Schools,*" *by M. P. Hansen. 1st Section.*

The portions to be memorised are—*Tennyson:* Three Songs (Break, Break, Break, The Splendour Fades (Bugle song), The Bells), and Crossing the Bar. *Browning:* Prospice. *Kipling:* Flag of England. *Henley:* England. *Newbolt:* Clifton Chapel. *Cuthbertson:* Sunrise.

ARITHMETIC.—First four rules simple and compound vulgar and decimal fractions and simple and compound proportion. Thorough knowledge of the British and metrical system of weights and measures.

GEOMETRY.—The first book of Euclid.

ALGEBRA.—So far as simple equations.

(Quality of handwriting will be taken into account in awarding marks.)

The following text-books are recommended by the Examiner:—

LATIN.—For Grammar and Composition:—
Allen's Elementary Latin Grammar.
Allen's First Latin Exercise Book.
These two books contain everything necessary for a sound and satisfactory preparation.

ARITHMETIC. Any good school treatise.

ENGLISH.—Accidence and Analysis. Nesfield's Outline of English Grammar, omitting Part V.

ALGEBRA.—Any good school treatise. C. Smith's Elementary Algebra may be mentioned as a work covering all requirements.

EUCLID.—Any good school treatise on Euclid, Book 1. The works by Hall and Steven, Smith and Bryant, Laying, or R. Deakin (Tutorial Series), may be mentioned as thoroughly satisfactory manuals.

The questions given at the examinations are published in the "Australasian Journal of Pharmacy" for March, June, September and December in each year. 1/- a copy.

Candidates must give written notice of their intention to present themselves, together with the Fee of One Guinea, TEN DAYS prior to the date fixed for the examination.

REGULATIONS *RE* EXAMINATIONS.

1. The marks for a pass in any of the compulsory subjects of the Preliminary, Intermediate, or Final Examinations shall be not less than 50 per cent. of the maximum marks of 100.

2. Any person who fails to obtain a pass in not more than two subjects at the Preliminary, Intermediate, or Final Examinations shall be entitled after a period of three months to present himself in either or both of the subjects in which he failed at any subsequent examinations on payment of the prescribed fees.

3. No certificate shall be issued to any person who has not passed in all the compulsory subjects of the examinations prescribed by Section 88 of the Medical Act, 1890, Part 3. But in the Preliminary Examination, if a candidate produces and lodges with the Registrar a certificate that he has, at the Junior Public or Senior Public Examination of the Melbourne University, or of some other University recognised by the Board, passed in any or all of the above subjects, he shall not be required to pass the Preliminary Examination in the subject or subjects included in the Junior or Senior Public Examination certificate.

4. Any candidate who desires a re-examination of any of the written papers sent in by him shall within seven days of the publication of the results of such examination lodge with the Registrar his application for a re-examination of such papers, and shall also pay a fee of 10s. 6d. for each and every paper examined.

5. Fees—The Preliminary Examination or any subject, £1 1s.; the Intermediate Examination, Chemistry, Practical Chemistry, Materia Medica, Botany, £2 2s., for any single subject, £1 1s.; Final Examination, all subjects, £3 3s., for any subsequent examination, £1 11s. 6d.

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.

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THE EXAMINATION of Students who have attended the Lectures in the above subjects is held half-yearly in June and December. The next examination will be held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY on 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th JUNE. 1913. The Examination Fee of Two Guineas must be paid ten days before that date.

THE FINAL EXAMINATION.

IN accordance with the Provisions of Clause 40 of the Regulations of "The Medical Act 1900," Part III., an EXAMINATION IN PRACTICAL PHARMACY before the Board will be held at the College of Pharmacy on the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th MARCH, 1913, at 10 o'clock a.m.

Candidates must give to the Registrar written notice of their intention to present themselves, together with their Indentures of Apprenticeship, the Certificates required by Section 88, Subdivision 4, of "The Medical Act 1890," Part III. and the Fee of Three Guineas, ten days prior to the day of examination.

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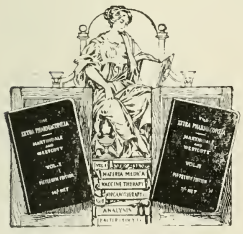

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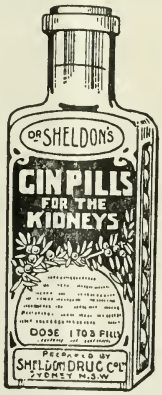

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